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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agriculture Economics
Washington, D.C.



Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 1.

January 3, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

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1a. READ EVERY WORD.

The fruit and vegetable portions of the annual report of the Chief of the Bureau should be carefully read by every employee of the F. & V. Division. They are a summary of the complete, detailed reports made by our project leaders, and this year the Chief's report is more comprehensive than ever before. In fact, all who read every word of the fruit and vegetable pages of the printed report will have a good idea of the work accomplished by this Division during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and will acquire a great deal of important information.

The Division of Publications has been requested to mail a copy of the Chief's report to each of our branch offices and temporary field stations. Offices at which three or more men are located will receive several copies, which can be circulated among the entire force. These booklets should be received in all offices between the 10th and 20th of January.

Be sure to ask the man in charge of your office to let you see the report, and read every word relating to fruits and vegetables on page 4 and pages 35 to 41 inclusive. If you will look over other parts of the report, you will acquire information concerning the work of all divisions of the Bureau. Technical employees especially should be well informed regarding all activities in which the Bureau of Agricultural Economics engages.

EVERY PERSON IN YOUR OFFICE

is supposed to read the Division Letter each week. Will you please take special care to see that the Letter is circulated among all employees? Pass it along after you read it.

2a. SPECIAL ISSUE OF "WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS."

"Weather, Crops and Markets" dated December 29, 1923, is a specially important issue, containing 48 pages. In it are published the annual crop estimate tables on a large number of products, and a mass of other valuable material. This issue of the paper will be more useful as a reference work than perhaps any other issue of the year, and every technical employee should keep a copy at hand. Crop estimates are given by States and include the latest revisions. The figures for December, 1922, are revised in this issue and only these corrected figures should be used in any statements published.

A complete alphabetical index of the fruit and vegetable material in the paper for December 29 will be prepared and distributed at an early date. You should attach the index to your copy of the paper, as you will find this a most convenient help in locating the various data. Extra copies of this special issue of "Weather, Crops and Markets" can be obtained on request.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. CONSOLIDATED REPORTS OF SHIPMENTS.

As previously noted, F. M. Patton has been enlisting the cooperation of railroads in the consolidation of their daily shipment reports, so that the numerous wires formerly received from individual division superintendents are now combined in the offices of general superintendents and Washington receives only these consolidated telegraphic reports from each road. To date, this new arrangement has been made effective on 46 railway lines. The former total of 403 daily telegraphic reports from these roads has been reduced to 60 reports from the general officers. Notwithstanding the increased number of products included in the shipment wires since July 1, the new system has effected a marked saving in telegraph tolls, as shown below:

Telegraph Tolls - Daily Shipment Reports.

	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>
1922:	\$1613.02	\$1469.70	\$1622.91	\$2011.16	\$2348.97	\$2678.61	\$2072.07
1923:	1451.62	1364.92	1526.08	1746.12	1763.08	1919.13	1486.10
Saving:	\$ 161.40	\$ 104.78	\$ 96.83	\$ 265.04	\$ 585.89	\$ 759.48	\$ 585.97

The shipment reports now cover approximately 850,000 carloads of 30 fruits and vegetables each year.

2b. DISTRIBUTION OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

C. E. Schultz attended a meeting of California fruit shippers at San Francisco last Saturday, and reports as follows concerning the prospects for future grape movement:

It is estimated that 85% to 90% of the table grape tonnage and fully 50% of the juice grape tonnage were represented at this meeting. All shippers were in a very receptive mood and repeatedly expressed themselves as open to any suggestions for relieving the serious problems which they foresee in the future marketing of the California grape crop. The Sun Maid Raisin Association controls around 300,000 acres of the 600,000 acres planted to grapes in California, according to Mr. Merritt, Manager of that organization. About 8,000 cars of Muscats, Thompsons, and Currants were released by the Association this year (1923) for green fruit shipments, and Mr. Merritt estimated that within two or three years this might be increased to 20,000 cars. Possible prospects of next season's total grape movement were estimated between 70,000 and 80,000 carloads.

After considerable discussion regarding problems which would have to be controlled in connection with any distribution system, such as small independent shippers' operations, cash selling and other established methods of selling, the meeting unanimously voted in favor of some system of effecting better distribution as one means of helping their marketing difficulties. A committee of about fifteen was appointed to work out the details, which will later be presented to the Government for approval and probably with a request for cooperation. The urgent necessity for better railroad terminal facilities was also discussed. A higher standard of the product shipped was another factor which it was felt could improve market conditions, if given more attention in the future.

3b. CUBAN MARKET FOR APPLES.

A correspondent in Cuba recently made the suggestion that more apples might be exported to Cuba, the West Indies and Central America. He says:

"Why depend upon domestic sales for New York apples, and let the Pacific Coast growers grab all the territory in sight here?"

"Cubans have acquired a taste for apples, but they sell at such a prohibitive price, 15¢ each, that not very many of the so-called middle class eat them. Yet you won't find any of them going begging, when offered for sale. Up to within the last year, they seemed to be for sale only on the trains, but stores in some of the smaller towns are now retailing them with good success and I believe at a price slightly lower than those disposed of on the railroads. A standard box retails at \$8.00 and of course that is on account of the long over-land haul to Gulf or Atlantic Coast ports."

4b. POTATO SITUATION IN MAINE.

Information received from H.S. Stiles, in charge of the Presque Isle field station, indicates that the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange, with headquarters at Caribou, has about 3,100 members signed up this year and controls not quite 50% of the crop. All sales are made through the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers. It is understood that the brokerage basis is \$20 per car, if sold in terminal market, and \$5 per car if sold at shipping point. Practically no f.o.b. sales are made. Everything is either sold on orders or rolled unsold. Considerable "rolling unsold" has been done, particularly on a dull market. Cars are billed to a certain point, possibly some small city in New England, and are sold on arrival at the best price obtainable; if there happens to be no great demand, the price is low.

Selling prices have been kept low enough to exclude most of the competition from other shipping sections, such as Michigan. About a month ago, five cars of Michigan stock were shipped to Boston as an experiment, but further shipments were not considered justifiable. Movement from Maine has been very heavy and there is no indication that it will be decreased.

Marketing through the Exchange and the "Federated" has raised the grading standard of Aroostook County on seed and table stock alike. The potatoes have been culled heavily, and their brand - the "Pine Tree" - runs generally of very good quality.

An early pool, comprising shipments of August and the first part of September, was settled early in the season. Stock at that time was high in price, but because of the limited number of shipments this pool did not amount to a great deal. Since then, it is understood that three advances have been made to growers on stock shipped or held in storage; the first is reported to have been 7¢ per barrel, the second 5¢, and the third 10¢. In other words, the farmers have received thus far about 22¢ per barrel for their entire output, with additional payments to be made in the future.

4½b. CORRECTIONS DESIRED.

Each branch office will receive with this Division Letter a post card, on which to report any changes or additions to the Market Station Address List, as published on August 15, 1923. All cards should be returned promptly.

5b. NEW AUCTION COMPANY IN PITTSBURGH.

Writing from Pittsburgh on December 28, S. W. Russell, who was substituting for J. K. Boyd, tells about a new auction company being started in that city:

"The name of the company will be The Pittsburgh Green Fruit Auction Company, and the stockholders will be receivers, buyers and shippers. Each individual is allowed to subscribe for not less than \$500 and not more than \$2500 worth of stock. The limit of the incorporation will be \$100,000. At the meeting this afternoon there were probably 50 men, and about \$75,000 was subscribed in the first hour. This sum was made up by receivers and buyers. The shippers are to be considered later, but it was stated at this meeting that shippers would be considered secondary to receivers and buyers. Mr. Franzell was acting chairman and he gave a brief outline of the new organization. It was agreed that 25% of the various subscriptions would be paid immediately and 25% after the charter is granted, the remaining 50% to be called in as needed. There will be 15 men elected by the stockholders next Wednesday afternoon to act as the operating committee. Three of these will be elected to act as an executive committee, and it is expected that one of these three will be the auctioneer. At present, there is but the Union Fruit Auction Company operating here on produce received, and the two F.O.B. Auction Companies."

6b. CHANGES ON "H" AND "JI-JU" PAGES OF CODE. (Effective Jan. 11.)

On "H" (Market and Demand) page of the code, change the heading "Movement" and all "movement" words in that column to read "trading." Then we will have, for example

AD	No trading	
AF	Trading slow	etc.

This is in accordance with the decision reached at the recent conference. It will not be necessary, however, to give any "trading" phrase in the market wires when the buyers' attitude (expressed in the wires by "demand" phrases) and trading are the same.

On "JI-JU" (Grade, Size, Pack and Color) page, change

JIJ	Extra choice	IJ	to read
JIJ	Combination Extra Fancy, Fancy and C grade	IJ	

From remarks made at the conference, it seems that "JIGIG" may not have the same meaning in all code books. It should read

JIG	Combination Extra Fancy and Fancy	IG
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7b. TOO FEW SALES REPORTED TO QUOTE.

It has been observed, and also called to our attention, that the term "Too few sales reported to quote" has recently been used rather frequently, especially by field stations.

There are many occasions when insufficient sales are made in a producing section to establish the market upon a particular day, but this term should never be used when it can be avoided. When used, it undoubtedly has a bearish influence upon the market, because it implies that no one in that section is interested in buying on that particular day, while such may not be the case. Please try to quote sales whenever possible, and only use the above term as a last resort.

8b. CIRCULAR LETTER FROM IDAHO FALLS.

Just before Christmas, A. E. Prugh, in charge of the Idaho Falls field station, sent the following circular letter to all persons on his mailing list. It contains points worth noting by other offices. After each of the questions, sufficient blank space is left to fill in reply.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

In a long winter deal such as Idaho Falls, many growers sell all of their potatoes by the first of the year and have no further use for the market report. In order to curtail expenses and limit the mailing list to those who still benefit by the market news, it is requested that this letter be filled in and returned to the Idaho Falls office. Shortly after the first of the year, the report will be discontinued to ALL on the present mailing list who do not return this letter. Please answer as many questions as possible:

DO YOU WISH REPORT MAILED AFTER JANUARY 1st? _____ IF SO, FOR HOW LONG? _____

WHAT PART OF THE REPORT DO YOU CONSIDER OF MOST VALUE?

MENTION SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

HAVE YOU BEEN INTERESTED IN THE SPECIAL MARKET NEWS INFORMATION PRINTED AT THE TOP OF THE IDAHO FALLS REPORT? (Mr. Prugh has been publishing excerpts from bulletins of the Department and brief market reviews at the top of his daily reports.)

HAVE YOU ANY COMPLAINT TO MAKE ON MAIL SERVICE?

ESTIMATE PERCENTAGE OF RUSSETS LEFT TO SHIP IN YOUR SECTION COMPARED WITH RURALS.

ESTIMATE CARLOAD SHIPMENTS OF SEED POTATOES FROM YOUR SECTION.

OTHER REMARKS.

With best wishes for the New Year,
Very truly yours, etc.

A large number of very complimentary replies were received by Mr. Prugh, expressing satisfaction with the reports and a continued demand for the service. Special interest was manifested in the brief reviews and market comments at the head of the reports, as well as in the f.o.b. information published.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Jan. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples#	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. E. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions#	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 31

The following stations probably will be opened on dates indicated:

EL CENTRO, CALIF.	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 10	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA.	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 1

* Reports discontinued.

** State Dept. cooperating.

Tri-weekly

Temporary Assignments:

G. A. DeHaven)
J. D. Evers) to Florida for
R. H. Lamb) inspection work.
S. W. Russell)
W. J. Bertush on sick leave.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SEND IN CHANGES OF HOME ADDRESS.

It is frequently necessary to wire Inspectors at their home addresses after hours and on holidays. It is therefore highly important that we be advised of changes in the home addresses of our men. Each Inspector is urgently requested to send to this office promptly any change in his home address or telephone number.

2c. TOLERANCE FOR DISCOLORED PEANUTS.

Par. 5c, in the Division Letter for December 6, told of a conference which was held in Washington by various peanut interests, to determine the proper classification of peanuts having discolored skins but which are otherwise sound. The following item, written by Mr. Samson, tells of the results of that meeting:

Although considerable publicity has been given to the tentative tolerance for discolored peanuts, in addition to other tolerances provided in U. S. No. 1 Shelled White Spanish stock, it is interesting that thus far there has been no unfavorable comment either from receivers or shellers. It will be remembered that this tolerance provides for 1% of noticeably discolored nuts, not more than 1/4 of which may be badly discolored.

Before making a definite decision in this matter, the Bureau will investigate the conditions obtaining in shelling plants. Mr. Robert C. Butner, Regional Supervisor of the Inspection Service, will make a trip through the southeastern peanut-producing sections, starting immediately after the conclusion of the Western Fruit Jobbers' Association meeting at Kansas City next week.

3c. WORK STARTED IN LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

In a letter of December 29, J. Harold Hoover writes as follows about the shipping-point inspections in South Texas:

"We are now planning to begin inspection work at San Benito and Mercedes, the two largest shipping points in the Valley, on January 2. The weather has cleared and the quality of the vegetables is improving rapidly. The cabbage is generally light weight but reasonably well formed. There is some slimy rot in the stock now being brought in, and many heads are slightly split, but we will keep this blemished stock out of the cars as much as possible. A very small percentage of the cabbage shipments will meet requirements of Texas No. 1 grade. The shippers have agreed to quote the cabbage on the basis of the percentage of No. 1 stock in the car, as shown by the inspection certificate.

The beets and carrots are showing up nicely, but are coming out muddy at the present time. Most shippers are washing them in tanks before loading. It will be no trouble to make the beets and carrots conform with Texas No. 1 requirements, and the shippers want every package that does not meet these requirements rejected for repacking, so that every car will go out with a No. 1 certificate. For a few weeks, the above commodities are the only ones that will be inspected, as there will be practically no movement of any other vegetables for some time."

4c. COLD WAVE IN TEXAS.

An unofficial report on spinach at Austin, Texas, January 2, reads as follows: "Severe cold wave this section, 26 degrees minimum and 47 degrees maximum temperature past 24 hours to 6 p. m. Damage believed slight, although larger plants representing possibly 200 or 300 acres of total 1,800 or 1,900 here touched in spots and damage problematical. No cutting today account severity of weather. January movement from this point probably light."

This morning's reports says: "Cold; misty. No cutting account of cold weather and crispness of plants from too much moisture. Clear weather predicted; growing warmer."

5c. MONTANA HANDBOOK.

Copy of the Official Handbook of the Division of Horticulture, Montana Department of Agriculture, Labor and Industry, is being mailed under separate cover to Inspectors who are likely to have use for this information. This booklet was issued by W. L. Shovell, Chief of the Division of Horticulture, at Missoula, Montana.

6c. CORRECTIONS FOR ADDRESS LIST.

Each Inspection office will receive with this Division letter a card, on which to report to Washington any changes necessary in the list of Inspectors and their addresses, as published on August 15, 1923. Please return these cards promptly. A new list will be printed in the near future.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

The numerous employees who were on leave the latter part of December have returned to duty, and activities are again in full swing in all offices.

On his return trip from the Chicago convention next Wednesday, Mr. Stillwell expects to stop a day each at the Cincinnati and Pittsburgh offices.

R.C. Butner, of the Chicago office, expects to attend the Western Fruit Jobbers' convention at Kansas City, the middle of next week, after which he will make a trip through the Southeast in the interest of the revised grades for peanuts.

S. W. Russell visited the Rochester office on his return trip to New York City from Pittsburgh. He will spend Friday in Washington and then proceed to Florida, to assist in shipping-point inspection work.

W. J. Bertush, who was scheduled to go to Florida from Chicago, has been obliged to change his plans. Illness has necessitated a trip to Rochester, Minnesota, where he is under the care of specialists. Mr. Bertush is on indefinite leave of absence.

Word from George A. DeHaven indicates that he is helping to inspect a wide variety of vegetables in Florida. He is inspecting the entire output of the Manatee County Growers' Association plant at Bradentown. Mr. DeHaven's mail address is Box 238, Palmetto, Fla.

The address of A. E. Mercker also is Box 238, Palmetto, Fla. E. E. Conklin, Jr., can be reached through the General Delivery, Lakeland, Fla. C. H. Behnke will arrive at Homestead, Fla., on January 7, and will make that town his headquarters during the time he assists with shipping-point work.

R. M. Peterson leaves Minneapolis this Friday for Florida. He is driving the entire distance by automobile, and will stop en route at Washington.

Announcement has been received of the arrival of a son, Robert F., in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Harris, Los Angeles, on December 23.

Sickness in his home at Ashville, N.Y., has made it necessary for M. W. Baker to be absent from the Pittsburgh office until about January 15.

J. J. Gardner, in charge of the Pittsburgh Inspection staff, is suffering from an injured leg. He is around the office but unable to make any inspections. G.R. Warren, of Philadelphia, has gone to Pittsburgh to help with the work in that city temporarily.

To conduct further conferences regarding the proposed 3/4 bushel hamper, H. A. Spilman attended a county agricultural meeting at Mt. Holly, N.J. yesterday, and today is appearing before a meeting of the grange at Moores-town.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. H. Lamb left Cincinnati for Orlando, Fla., this morning. The market news work in Cincinnati will be in charge of L. H. Wulfekuhl, as during the past five or six months.

J. D. Evers visited the Washington office on Wednesday, en route to Florida, where he will help with inspection work.

F. H. Scruggs, who substituted in the Boston Market News office for a couple of months, is spending a few days in the Washington office before proceeding to Sanford, Fla., to operate the field station on celery.

Miss Ruth Leyrer, of the Philadelphia office of the Inspection Service, recently resigned her position to become the bride of William C. Lynn, cooperative Inspector at Harrisburg. This romance began while Mr. Lynn was connected with the Market News Service in Philadelphia two years ago. The wedding took place at Atlantic City, N. J., on December 29. A farewell party was given in honor of Miss Leyrer by her co-workers.

M. L. Benn, of the New York staff, has been substituting for G. W. Payne, Boston Inspector. Mr. Payne has been on sick leave for a couple of weeks, and is not yet able to return to duty.

E. F. McKune, of the Denver office, has been authorized to make trips in Colorado for investigational work in connection with the onion grades.

A third member of the Washington staff to be struck by an automobile is Mrs. D. P. Dinsmore, of Mr. Patton's office. Though knocked down, Mrs. Dinsmore fortunately was not very seriously injured.

Two excess wool profits cases will come up for trial in United States district courts next week. The case against H. Marcus & Son, Baltimore, is scheduled for trial on January 7, and that against E. Davis & Son, Chicago, is on the calendar for January 11.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 2.

January 10, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. "CROPS AND MARKETS" IS NEW NAME FOR WEEKLY PAPER. (Important)

The three weather pages have been discontinued from "Weather, Crops and Markets," and the name of the paper has been changed to "Crops and Markets." The number of pages in regular weekly issues has been reduced to 16, of which the Fruit and Vegetable Division will have $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 pages. Future issues will be printed on better paper than has been used in the past. The first issue was printed on the newspaper stock by mistake, but copies will be furnished for files on good paper.

Once a month, - usually about the third Saturday of the month, - a Monthly Statistical Supplement will be issued. This supplement will contain all monthly statistical tables, crop reports, monthly reviews and other special articles. Men in charge of field stations, therefore, should make it a rule to have their periodical articles reach Washington not later than the Monday preceding the third Saturday of the month. The big issue of the paper in January will be dated January 19, and all copy must be in hand by Monday, the 14th. The next big issue will be that for February 16, and all copy for that number must be in hand by Monday, February 11.

It has not been the custom to send special receipts or acknowledgments for articles from field men or branch offices, the actual publication of these stories in the paper being considered sufficient notice of their safe receipt. Credit will still be given the individual authors of special articles in some sort of brief index to be published in the text of the Division Letter. Always examine the fruit and vegetable pages of "Crops and Markets".

As noted on the attached index to "Crops and Markets" for January 5, an index will be published hereafter in the Monthly Supplement, covering the entire four (or five) papers of that month.

Please advise Washington promptly, if your office does not receive the weekly and monthly issues of "Crops and Markets" regularly. Certain changes are being made in the mailing lists, but it is intended that all our offices should get these papers regularly.

2a. MARKETING CALIFORNIA PEAR CROP.

According to reports obtained by the Division of Cooperative Relations, about \$50,000 was spent this year by the California Pear Growers' Association, San Francisco, Calif., in an advertising campaign to increase the consumption of California Bartlett pears. The crop of pears was no larger than in 1922 but the canneries of the State bought 17,000 tons less than in 1922 and, in consequence, new markets had to be found speedily. For three weeks in the height of the season, nearly 1,000 cars a week were sold. Advertising was limited to a few localities. In the four cities, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and Pittsburgh, the consumption of pears increased 119% over 1920 when no advertising was done. In New York City no advertising was done this year and the increase in consumption was only 46%.

Several important lessons were learned from observations on the eastern markets, among which were the following: (1) Greater care should be given at the beginning of the season not to ship immature pears. (2) A tighter pack of more uniform sized pears is demanded. - (Page 11)

3a. STANDARDIZATION WORK IN LOUISIANA AND TEXAS.

William E. Lewis has been working in the territory around New Orleans, but has now moved on to Texas on account of recent freezes in Louisiana. Parts of his letter of January 6 and his wire of the 8th are quoted below:

"Have spent the past week in visiting the various packing houses in New Orleans, Kenner, and Arabi. The principal crops which I have seen are escarole, endive, anise, mustard, parsley and shallots. While a considerable quantity of beets, carrots and turnips has been on the retail stands, it has not been my good fortune to be around when these crops are packed. The days when I have been with the County Agents have been so cold that the growers were not getting out anything. There was a freeze here last night (Jan. 5-6) that may retard some crops and perhaps do some real damage.

"During the coming week, I will spend some time in St. Bernard Parish and in Kenner; also in the local packing houses. All of the shippers believe thoroughly in the grades, but when the market is good they will accept anything and play a cut-throat game.

"There are very few straight carlot shipments from this section, most of the loadings being mixed cars of various vegetables. When a shipper is badly in need of escarole, and a grower drives up with escarole, beets and carrots, he will make the shipper take all or nothing, and the latter has to take the load, even though the carrots and beets are of inferior quality.

"At Kenner, the shippers realize that places up-State, which are newer sections, have taken away the prestige they used to have and are getting better prices on account of better quality products. These shippers would like to have some kind of police inspection to force the growers to do better grading.

"I believe that the best work along grading lines can be done in St. James Parish, which is about half way between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. It is one of the newer sections and they can very easily put up a good package. Many of the growers there belong to the Louisiana Farm Bureau Selling Exchange, which is very strong for the grades. They have had but little experience in packing their products for shipment and are not familiar with the methods of packing with ice. That is why I am spending so much time in the packing houses in this section. I will then be able to deal more intelligently in instructing them in the methods generally used.

"P.S. - Monday: Today the packing houses have the appearance of Sunday. Did not see one barrel packed. The damage by the freeze is very great, some estimating 75% on most crops and 50% on cabbage in some sections. If the damage is as great as estimated, it will be several weeks before these people will get any more stuff on the market."

Mr. Lewis' wire of January 8 reads as follows:

"Freeze caused heavy damage to most crops throughout State, even cabbage in some sections. Possibly spinach, parsley, shallots will recover. Shippers expect little loading before four to eight weeks."

CORRECTION: The attached index to "Crops and Markets" for January 5 was mimeographed before the Division Letter proper was prepared. Part of the Special Notice at the top of that index contradicts a statement on the front page of the D.L. The front-page article is correct, where it states that the future, monthly indexes to "Crops and Markets" will be printed in that paper. There will be no more mimeographed indexes.

4a. A. F. & V. S. CONVENTION.

The sixth annual convention of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association was held in Chicago, January 5, 7 and 8. Mr. Stillwell, who attended the sessions with Mr. Samson, brought back the following report of some of the interesting developments:

The Association went on record as being very favorable to the standardization work of this Division, and approves the separation of size and quality for most of the commodities. The Legislative Committee reported favorably on the package standardization bill which will come before the present Congress. The convention also went on record as opposed to crop insurance by the Government. Most of the discussions were on matters relating to the transportation of fruits and vegetables.

The report of the Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. S. Briggs, is an interesting book of 57 pages. It contains a number of charts, diagrams and half-tone cuts, in addition to the text proper. One item is to the effect that the Association has approved the draft of a Federal Arbitration Law, which had been unanimously approved by the American Bar Association.

Mention is made of plans being formulated by us, whereby it is hoped that radio broadcasts can be made periodically of the expected peak movement of particular products, so as to increase consumption at those periods. There are a number of difficulties which must be overcome before such a scheme can be made effective.

Three pages are devoted to a list of the States which have standardized various types of fruit and vegetable containers. Almost equal space is given to the inspection service, and to various decisions of this Department relating to fruits and vegetables.

A list of the Federal inspection offices in terminal markets concludes the report, along with a brief review of the shipping-point service. The Secretary requests all members of the Association to report cases where inspectors leave a car in bad order, after having opened packages or having cut and removed specimens of the contents.

5a. DEVELOPMENTS IN COLORADO.

Roud McCann, Director of Extension Service in Colorado, reported in a letter of January 2 that the State authorities had a radio receiving set on the Special Agricultural Train which was operated throughout Colorado for three weeks. Livestock reports were featured, as the train was run in the interest of a pure-bred sire campaign. The radio work attracted very favorable comment on the part of the 25,000 people who visited the train at country stations. It was found entirely feasible to receive the radio messages while the train was in full motion. Mr. McCann states that they are now working on a plan for broadcasting extension programs by radio from Denver, and in the process of the venture J. D. Snow, of our Denver office, will be given opportunity to tell the entire State about the Market News Service and related lines of work. It is hoped that, later, a broadcasting station may be located at the Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins. Increasing interest is being shown in the market reporting service. Growers of beans are particularly desirous of obtaining price information on that product, in addition to the reports already being issued by the Denver office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. SHIPMENT REPORTS BY NIGHT LETTER

Hereafter, when issuing instructions to division reporters to send our field stations telegraphic daily reports of shipments, the Transportation Section will instruct reporters to forward these telegrams by night letter, for the purpose of economy. However, field station representatives are authorized to make direct request that the information be sent by day message in specific cases where the results show that a night letter will not make the information available at the time it is needed.

2b. VEGETABLE PLANTINGS ON WEST COAST OF MEXICO.

All offices may now release the acreage figures for West Coast of Mexico vegetables, as published on page 552 of the Division Letter for December 27, 1923. The Truck Crop section of our Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates has accepted these figures as probably the best obtainable, and has approved their general release. If you copy that D. L. item in your mimeographed reports, be sure to give the date as mentioned in the letter.

3b. MIMECON OR NO. 767 MINEOGRAPE INK.

A reading of the reports received in response to an item in the Division Letter of November 8, 1923, shows as great a divergence in opinions regarding the relative merits of Mimecon and of No. 767 ink as could be imagined. Some find the Mimecon ink entirely satisfactory and are able to turn out as many or more copies than are possible with No. 767 ink, whereas others have found Mimecon ink very unsatisfactory and not economical, as they cannot secure more than half as many copies from the same quantity of ink. A large number complained of the offensive odor of the Mimecon ink. Both kinds are A. B. Dick Company inks.

According to the favorable replies received on Mimecon ink and to information obtained from the A. B. Dick Company representative in Washington, the securing of satisfactory results with Mimecon ink requires greater care, principally on account of its being so much thinner than No. 767 ink, but when properly used is much more economical and can be made to produce satisfactory results. However, the No. 767 ink is undoubtedly the best mimeograph ink, although not the least expensive.

Under these circumstances, either kind of ink ordered will be furnished. When satisfactory results can be obtained, we prefer that Mimecon ink be used as a matter of economy. This cheaper ink is as permanent as the other and will print as distinctly when properly applied, bearing in mind the suggestions made in Division Letter of November 22, Par. 1b. Be sure to indicate the kind of mimeograph ink desired, when placing orders.

4b. CONDITIONAL DISCONTINUANCE OF MAIL REPORTS.

In accordance with the statement made at the recent Conference, - where the local market report issued by any office contains all the information that would appear on the "mail report," that office may discontinue sending "mail reports" to Washington. In such cases an extra copy of the local market report should be sent in, marked for the attention of Mrs. Rice. This will make a total of 3 copies daily, as all offices are supposed to mail 2 copies to Washington regularly. Products included in telegraphic reports from any office may be omitted from the regular "mail reports," which all offices not issuing local bulletins should continue to send to Washington.

5b. RADIO BROADCASTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

A recent letter from C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, tells of arrangements made with the General Electric Company's branch station at Oakland, Calif., whereby market reports will be broadcast regularly. This station is said by them to be the largest sending station in the United States. Mr. Hansen is planning to give them the San Francisco market as an experiment and, if this proves satisfactory, the information will be increased to cover a sketch of all markets received over the leased wire. It has been decided best to send these radio reported either during the noon hour or between 7 and 8 P.M., as the farmers generally would appreciate the information more if received during their leisure time. If special-delivery mail service across the Bay does not prove prompt enough, our office will either wire or phone the market reports to the General Electric Company at their expense.

6b. MARKET NEWS WORK IN TEXAS.

J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Radio Market News Service, submitted the following interesting information in a recent letter concerning the cooperative market reporting work in that State:

"Our communication with Houston is now working splendidly. WEAY copies at 10 A.M. and broadcasts at 11 A.M., also at 2 and re-broadcasts at 3 P.M., while our representative there prepares information, as received, in shape for local papers, which gives us a wonderful circulation throughout the lower Rio Grande Valley, as the Chronicle is cooperating fully, and the Post will later on cabbage. The Spinach summary as telegraphed by radio is also released at the press room here where the Dallas News, Galveston News and San Antonio Express handle it by telegraph, and both local papers publish it. It goes by mail to all other papers represented here by special reporters. Besides this we telegraph carlot shipments every morning collect to Jarratt at San Antonio and passings through St. Louis to Westbrook at Laredo each afternoon. Ferguson Brothers at Pearsall are putting in a radio receiving set to catch the broadcasts on spinach, and Prof. Mally at Laredo is working like a good fellow to complete arrangements down there for a special operator to handle the work for his growers.

"Our mailing list, counting the additions that came in the mail yesterday, is now 145. Western Union is working on the possibilities of a modified CND service, but while we have gotten together on some plans the proposition is so new to them that it is developing very slowly. Shippers are making considerable inquiry for the service because of the announcement in our last bulletin that it would be available by CND, but the matter of telegraph tolls is the big difficulty. I think before the present week is out, however, that we will be working across by radio to Laredo without trouble, and Prof. Mally is ready to do anything possible to secure its dissemination after I get copy to him, both by phone to the shippers and by publication in the afternoon paper. We made contact last night with one operator at Laredo who is willing to handle the information at hours that do not conflict with his regular duties, i.e. before 8 A.M., during noon, and after 6 P.M." - Mr. Hunter then suggests the possibility of getting the Army radio stations in Rio Grande Valley to receive market reports during the onion season.

7b. CORRECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA LETTUCE SHIPMENT REPORTS.

Inquiries from W. H. Hall, at Chicago, and C. E. Schultz, at El Centro, Calif., led to the discovery of some duplications in reports of California lettuce shipments since December 3. The following corrections have been sent to these men, and all other offices should make note of the revised figures, so as to be in position to answer any inquiries that may arise:

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Correct Shipments from -</u>	
	<u>Imperial Valley.</u>	<u>Southern California.</u>
Dec. 3	2 cars	24 cars
4	5	45
5	1	42
6	5	45
7	8	37
8	12	36
9	4	27
10	12	26
11	11	29
12	14	21
13	20	28
14	19	28
15	--	59
16	8	22
17	16	40
18	33	41
19	33	19
20	22	27
21	37	35
22	30	19
23	13	3
24	20	26
25	5	2
26	14	15
27	7	12
28	10	4
29	41	19
30	66	11
31	84	33
Jan. 1	62	1
2	55	6
3	51	1
4	58	6
Total to Jan. 4:	778	789

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Jan. 12
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples #	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions #	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 31
EL CENTRO, CALIF. .	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1

The following station probably will be opened on date indicated:

SANFORD, FLA.	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 1
---------------	-----	---------------	--------	---------	--------

* Reports discontinued.
 ** State Dept. cooperating.
 # Tri-weekly.

Temporary Assignments:

G. A. DeHaven)
 J. D. Evers) to Florida for
 R. H. Lamb) inspection work.
 S. W. Russell)
 W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection/

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. "CHOICE" SAME AS "NO. 2" IN FLORIDA ORANGE GRADES.

A number of Florida shippers have requested the privilege of using the term "Choice" instead of "No. 2" in marking their oranges and grapefruit, which come under the No. 2 classification of the tentative grades. Shipping-point certificates describe these cars as "Choice (U. S. No. 2)." Any lots, therefore, which are marked "Choice Bright," "Choice Golden," or "Choice Russet" should be graded according to the specifications of the tentative No. 2 grades for Florida citrus.

2c. CONDITION OF INSPECTION FUNDS.

The very large amount of work undertaken this year has resulted in expenses which have been greater than estimated at the beginning of the season. The only way in which a deficit can be avoided at the close of the year is for every person connected with the Inspection Service to conduct his part of the work on the basis of the strictest possible economy. This will apply particularly to the purchase of supplies, traveling expenses and clerical help.

The use of automobiles is one of our greatest expenses. Each office should study the local situation, to determine to what extent it is possible to cut down this item. It is believed that a number of our offices can, to advantage, leave cars in storage during the winter months.

Long-distance trips to outside markets may be refused, whenever there is any reason for believing that the Inspector can accomplish more work by remaining at headquarters. In case the applicant offers to put up the money in advance for the expenses of such trips, it should be accepted so that the traveling expenses will not have to be charged against our funds. In this case, no charge for expenses should be shown on fee bill or the certificate copy which comes to the Washington office.

Supervising Inspectors are requested to limit their travel as much as is consistent with the proper conduct of their work. No trips should be made solely for the purpose of interesting new shippers in the work or for attending meetings. All trips made by men whose expenses are being carried on our Inspection fund, both in connection with receiving-point and shipping-point-work, aside from regular routine travel, should be made only after approval by the Washington office.

Financial conditions somewhat similar to the present have existed at this time of year for the last two years. It has been possible in the past, however, to use some reserves for meeting deficits, but this cannot be done this year and we must live absolutely within the limits of our allotment. Your earnest cooperation is asked to the end that it may not be necessary to curtail our work at the end of the season.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22:

During December, the Norfolk office made 19 inspections for the U.S. Shipping Board, amounting to 53,316 lbs. of fruit and vegetables passed; no rejections; 53,316 lbs. total quantity inspected. Items billed short-weight, - 1.

3c. EXAMINE CAR CARDS AND MARKS CAREFULLY; REMOVE OLD ONES.

The following letter shows the complications which may result from lack of care in examining a shipping-point tag found in a car on which inspection is requested. Whenever a shipping-point card or a shipping-point mark on the wall of a car shows inspection at a date which is inconsistent with the date of arrival, the point of origin of the shipment should be ascertained from the railroad office in order to see whether the car tag or marking covered a previous inspection. A little care in this connection may avoid embarrassing complications. The letter referred to is quoted below:

"On November 5th Roloff Bros. near Dayton, Washington, shipped car MDT 152478 containing Fancy Romes to storage in Chicago. This particular car was Federally inspected at Long station near Dayton on the above-mentioned date.

"Recently another of our units re-shipped a car out of cold storage and, upon arrival, the buyer complained on account of grade, following which the Exchange called for Government inspection. It so happened that the same car was used for this shipment, namely MDT 152473, although the contents were Extra Fancy Jonathans.

"The Government inspection, just received, covered the condition only and the notation appears on the certificate to the effect that this car was inspected at Long station near Dayton, Washington, on November 5th and, if we desired to learn of the grade and pack, we could secure a copy of such certificate at Olympia.

"Obviously, the card notice which you place in cars at point of origin had never been removed from the car and undoubtedly your inspector merely glanced at the notice and failed to read it. At this time, I am unable to state whether or not any damage will accrue from this error."

4c. LISTS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

Beginning with Monday of this week, lists of certificates received from shipping points were mailed to our various offices. These cover the certificates received each day. The lists are mailed out that evening. It is believed that, if the mail service is prompt, these will reach most of the offices in time to give information desired regarding cars moving from the Pacific Coast. It is expected that Florida shipments will be added to this list in the next few days.

No car initials are given. There are a few duplicate series of car numbers and it is possible that some confusion may result from this cause. It is believed, however, that it will be simpler for offices to wire in, if they find a car number on which inspection is requested entered on these lists, than it will be to try to give the car initials covering each number. Each office is asked to advise us of inspections requested on cars which arrive before the lists reach them, and also to let us know in case there is any unusual delay in the lists reaching them from Washington.

Stars are placed opposite numbers of cars which are definitely declared to be out of grade. On some of those which are listed without stars, portions of the cars are up to grade and portions are below. It will be necessary, therefore, to wire to Washington whenever you are inspecting a car, the number of which is listed, in order to get full information regarding the grading of car.

It has been suggested that these sheets be cut crosswise according to States, and be filed by States. Each office is requested to experiment with the filing of these lists and report the method which seem most satisfactory.

5c. INSPECTION RECORDS MADE IN IDAHO.

Writing under date of January 5, L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector for the State of Idaho, tells of the remarkably high percentage of Federal-State inspections made at shipping points in that territory:

"At the start of the season in the early potato section, we had practically 100% inspection, only one or two shippers refusing to take inspections on all of their shipments. Of the 2,255 cars of prunes shipped this season, we inspected 2,018. Approximately 95% of the peaches were inspected and to date fully 90% of the apple shipments have been certified. There was considerable talk for a while that the Idaho Potato Growers' Exchange would cease taking inspections, but they have decided definitely to have inspections on all stock. Total inspections from July 1, 1923, to January 1, 1924, were 12,363.

"The extremely wet weather and hard freezes at digging time in the eastern part of the State made it very difficult for the inspectors in certifying cars of potatoes, and I must say I am quite proud of the work done under such conditions. The fruit inspectors also have reason to be proud of their record, for, of the total amount of apples shipped this season, we have record of only one car being reversed as to grade in a receiving market. Only the Extra Fancy grade in this car was reversed, the other grades being sustained."

6c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN SOUTH TEXAS.

Further information regarding the inspection work in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is contained in J. H. Hoover's letter of January 4:-

"Inspection service was started yesterday at Mercedes and San Benito, covering all carlot shipments of beets, carrots and cabbage. The movement is still light but will increase steadily, and the other shipping points in the Valley will begin shipping in volume within the next few weeks. A man will be placed at each station as the shipments increase. The cabbage has made wonderful improvement in quality, and an effort is being made to have all shipments meet requirements of Texas Grade No. 1. The local inspectors have instructions to inspect all wagon-loads as they are unloaded and reject any stock that does not meet these requirements. Heads are generally of medium size and reasonably hard for Texas stock. There will be very little difficulty in grading beets and carrots up to Texas No. 1 requirements, and it is the policy of the large shippers to ship nothing but No. 1 stock.

"During the last ten days the weather has been fairly favorable and the country looks good at the present time. In many cabbage fields a considerable amount of root rot developed on account of wet weather and the yield will be reduced, but the cabbage acreage is large and this may prove to be a good thing for the growers. Carrots are of fine quality and beets generally good, with many fields showing rough and woody stock account of rains.

"Weather has been unfavorable for the lettuce and there will be very little harvested. The onions are doing fine but are still very small and will not be harvested for some time.

"Interest in the inspection work is increasing steadily among the growers and shippers, and present indications are for a very successful deal and a large number of cars inspected."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

January 10,
1924.

Shipping-point inspection
work in Florida is now being conducted
chiefly in these districts:-

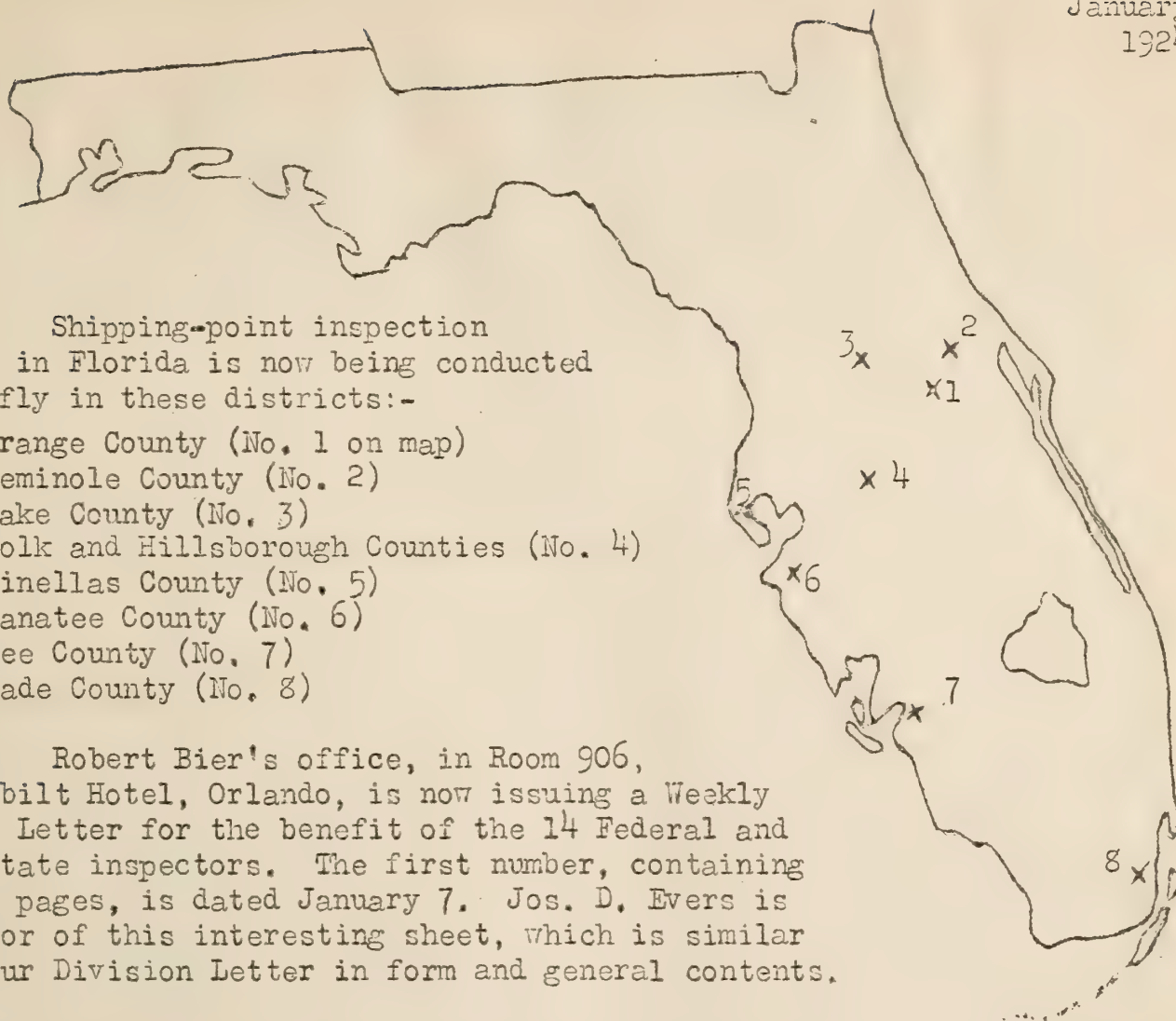
- Orange County (No. 1 on map)
- Seminole County (No. 2)
- Lake County (No. 3)
- Polk and Hillsborough Counties (No. 4)
- Pinellas County (No. 5)
- Manatee County (No. 6)
- Lee County (No. 7)
- Dade County (No. 8)

Robert Bier's office, in Room 906,
Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, is now issuing a Weekly
News Letter for the benefit of the 14 Federal and
25 State inspectors. The first number, containing
four pages, is dated January 7. Jos. D. Evers is
editor of this interesting sheet, which is similar
to our Division Letter in form and general contents.

A list of the Inspection headquarters, with the names and addresses
of our own men (copied from the Florida Weekly News Letter) is given below:

Number
on Map.

1. ORLANDO - Room 906, Angebilt Hotel.
Robert Bier, Federal Supervising Inspector.
Jos. D. Evers.
2. SANFORD - Court House.
P. D. Rupert, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
F. H. Scruggs, Market News representative.
3. LEESEBURG -
R. M. Peterson, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
4. LAKELAND - P.O. Box 1101.
O. G. Strauss, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
S. W. Russell.
R. H. Lamb (Plant City, 10 miles to the West)
5. CLEARWATER - 509 N. Ft. Harrison Ave.
B. E. Shaffer, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
6. PALMETTO - P.O. Box 238.
A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
Nathaniel Farnworth.
George A. DeHaven.
7. FORT MYERS -
F. E. Hooper, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
8. HOMESTEAD - Homestead Hotel.
W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector in Charge.
C. H. Behnke.



INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1923

MARKETS	Total Fruits C.L. & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C.L. & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L. C. L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	22	33	55	60	0	0	\$ 208	\$ 7.50	\$ 3
Baltimore	18	24	42	32	0	0	156	12.50	5
Boston	9	29	38	75	3	2	148	2.50	1
Buffalo	28	8	36	26	0	0	120	15.00	3
Chicago	189	72	261	267	12	0	1044	10.00	34
Cincinnati	7	27	34	49	0	0	132	-	-
Cleveland	19	14	33	50	2	0	116	7.50	6
Columbus	18	12	30	31	17	0	116	-	1
Denver	5	7	12	3	0	0	44	-	-
Detroit	22	36	58	37	7	0	224	2.50	8
Fort Worth	11	5	16	48	5	1	56	5.00	-
Harrisburg	1	1	2	6	1	0	8	-	1
Houston	9	7	16	28	2	0	48	10.00	2
Indianapolis	17	5	22	39	0	0	76	15.00	2
Kansas City	74	24	98	60	0	2	388	2.50	4
Los Angeles	0	1	1	0	1	0	4	-	-
Memphis	13	19	32	35	13	0	124	2.50	6
Milwaukee	7	4	11	81	1	0	36	5.00	16
Minneapolis	18	17	35	53	1	0	140	5.00	2
New Haven	18	21	39	-	0	0	152	2.50	5
New Orleans	42	56	98	85	49	0	276	72.50	14
New York	328	119	447	332	48	0	1452	210.00	14
Norfolk	7	16	23	9	3	2	92	-	4
Omaha	21	4	25	41	1	0	96	2.50	-
Philadelphia	6	45	51	297	0	1	184	12.50	4
Pittsburgh	34	45	79	122	11	0	316	-	22
Portland	20	11	31	-	0	0	120	2.50	-
Salt Lake City	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
San Antonio	6	12	18	-	0	0	64	5.00	-
San Francisco	0	0	0	1	0	0	-	-	-
St. Louis	24	78	102	146	62	0	352	10.00	15
Washington	10	23	33	39	4	0	120	-	4
Wichita	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Wilkes-Barre	6	4	10	6	2	1	40	-	8
TOTAL	1009	779	1788	2064	245	9	\$6452	\$420.00	\$184

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections 1009 | Inspections for Carriers ... 245
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections . 779 | Declined for lack of time... 9
 Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections ... 1788 | Total Fees Assessed \$7,100*

* Total Fees Assessed includes \$44 covering inspections of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING DECEMBER, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS							
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruit and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications	Items billed short- weight			
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	262095 7213	60850 0	322945 7213	295 0	0 0			
NEW YORK	872848 187302	3416 190	876264 187492	2410 20	0 0			
NORFOLK	931381 --	0 --	931381 --	0 --	0 --			
PHILADELPHIA	638047 17829	8561 25	646608 17854	2519 87	0 0			
SAN DIEGO	1133991 72118	7516 350	1141507 72468	248 16	0 0			
SAN FRANCISCO	163680 0	3785 0	167465 0	0 0	0 0			
SAN PEDRO	1451083 --	19679 --	1470762 --	218 --	0 --			
VALLEJO	209798 36473	7515 5839	217313 42312	2481 15	0 0			
TOTALS	5662923 320935	111322 6404	5774245 327339	8171 138	0 0			

In addition to the above, 34,760 lbs. of bread were inspected and accepted by the Vallejo office.

The following items were also inspected at San Pedro:

	<u>Accepted</u>	<u>Rejected</u>
Bread	19,850 lbs.	460 lbs.
Butter	26,613	480
Cheese	9,810	625

Three cars of potatoes and one car of onions were rejected on track; 20,000 lbs. of onions rejected on the market, and 20,000 lbs. of onions ordered reconditioned at warehouse. Also 740 boxes of apples were ordered repacked at the Contractor's warehouse.

The New York office made 20 inspections for the U. S. Shipping Board, amounting to 42,465 lbs. of fruits and vegetables passed, 790 lbs. rejected; 43,255 lbs. total quantity inspected. The New York office also inspected for the United States Lines 96,569 lbs. of fruit and 243,741 lbs. of vegetables, with rejections amounting to 11,937 lbs. For the Manson Line, fruit inspections were 21,365 lbs. and vegetables 72,399 lbs., rejections amounting to 1,815 lbs.

(See Norfolk report at bottom of Page 18.)

OFFICE NOTES:

Results of the market news conference held in New York City last Friday are published in full on front page of this week's D.A.E. News, and are of special interest to this Division as they relate primarily to fruit and vegetable reports.

J. R. Duncan, of the Salt Lake City office, has gone to San Francisco to substitute for the Live Stock reporter in that city, who was called away suddenly on account of a death in his family. The Live Stock representative in Utah (Mr. Hartung) will carry on Mr. Duncan's work during his absence.

We are glad to report that W. J. Bertush has been able to cancel his contemplated leave, and that he reported for duty again on January 5. Mr. Bertush has since proceeded from Chicago to New York City, where he will assist with inspection work.

S. F. Shreve, of the Baltimore inspection office, spent Saturday, Sunday and Monday at Winchester, Va., inspecting 32 cars of apples in cold storage.

As noted on another page of this D.L., Wm. E. Lewis has left Louisiana for the time being and is continuing his grading investigations in Texas.

The Florida address of E. E. Conklin, Jr., has been changed to P. O. Box 1311, Lakeland. He formerly received his mail through the General Delivery in that city. Mr. Conklin is traveling throughout the State; he recently visited Orlando and is now (temporarily) at Fort Myers, investigating grades for vegetables and fruits.

C. W. Hauck went to New York City on Monday night and for the past two days has been conferring with Admer D. Miller and other interested persons regarding the auction companies. It will be remembered that Mr. Miller prepared an elaborate report on auctions before resigning from this Division. Mr. Hauck is now bringing that material up to date and adding data relating to the f.o.b. auction companies.

Robert Bier probably will represent this Division at the annual convention of the National League of Commission Merchants, to be held in Jacksonville, Fla., next week. Mr. Sherman had expected to attend this meeting, but was obliged to change his plans.

It is with sincere regret that announcement was received of the death of Fred A. Dusman, telegraph operator in our St. Louis office. Mr. Dusman had been with the Bureau for the past six years. He is survived by his wife.

Word from P. D. Rupert, at Sanford, Fla., indicates that celery was just starting to move last week and will be quite heavy by January 10. Hot weather during the past week caused the celery under board to bleach fast. He estimates that possibly 6,000 carloads will be shipped, about 60% of which may be inspected through the shipping-point service.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, and J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, attended the trial at Baltimore early this week, in which the Government sought to recover excess profits on 1918 wool alleged to have been made by H. Marcus and Son. Sidney Sichel, formerly an auditor in the Wool Section, also attended this trial. The case was tried before a jury, but the Judge later dismissed the jury and decided with the Government in all points except one. This important exception affects the original basis on which all excess wool profits have been collected from ~~central~~ dealers, if the decision is upheld by the Supreme Court.

Miss Alice Berger, who has been on the clerical force of the Domestic Wool Section for several months, has resigned, effective January 15, with the privilege of reinstatement at a later date.

Miss Alice E. Buxton, who has devoted her time exclusively to the Inspection work in Pittsburgh, will now give part of her time to the clerical work in the Pittsburgh Market News office.

The new clerical appointee in the Chicago Market News office is Miss Gertrude Warshawsky, formerly with the Indian Service.

On another page of this D. L., it will be observed that the headquarters of W. V. Stephens have been changed from Miami to Homestead, Fla. O. G. Strauss, who was working for a while at Fort Myers, has now returned to his headquarters at Lakeland, Fla. The assignments of the Market News men, who recently went to Florida, also are given in the list in another part of this paper. Nathaniel Farnworth has been stationed at Palmetto, with A. E. Mercker.

Word from R. M. Peterson indicates that he left Indianapolis night before last enroute by automobile from Minneapolis to Florida, via Washington.

Field men of the Market News Service especially should read the first page article concerning "Crops and Markets." Inspectors will be particularly interested in the article regarding the A. F. & V. S. convention at Chicago.

F. M. Patton is on a trip to Chicago, Peoria, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York, in the interest of telegraphic reports of shipments.

W. V. Stephens, located at Homestead, Fla., reports that inspection of tomatoes in that section will probably be started this week. O. G. Strauss advises that inquiries are being made as to the possibility of having strawberries inspected at Plant City. The local inspectors at Auburndale reports that about 700 carloads of citrus fruit are to be packed through the packing house at that point. (Auburndale is near Lakeland.) A. E. Mercker, in charge at Palmetto, Fla., writes that 25 or 30 cars are being inspected daily in that section. Celery is now beginning to move. Heavy shipments from Fort Myers are over until February, according to advices from F. E. Hooper. The quality of peppers, tomatoes, and cucumbers on the mainland is not meeting grade requirements. Those from Sanibel Island are very good. Citrus work has now started at Fort Myers.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Hereafter this mimeographed index to the fruit and vegetable material in Crops and Markets will be issued as a separate sheet only once a month. That sheet will be in the form of a monthly index, covering four (or five) issues at one time. A brief index to weekly issues will be published in the text of our weekly Division Letter.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDEX TO CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JANUARY 5, 1924.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 3.

January 17, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. GIVING OUT THE CROP REPORT.

During the recent Market News conference at Washington, the delegates from field and market stations had a chance to see how the crop reports are given. The scene was described in the "Rural New Yorker" the following week:

Crop Reporting Day: Once a month, the Division of Crop Estimates at Washington directs a short but lively little play, called by jokers "Giving Out the Dope." The visitor who happens along at the right time may look into the large room where things happen. There a dozen or so reporters stand prepared to spring for one of the telephones hung along the sides of the room. The newspaper men are surrounded by a chalk line which they must not cross before the exact minute previously set for release, when the signal is given. Each man is handed a typewritten copy of the production estimate on cotton, wheat or whatever it may be. "Stand back of the line," call the assistants. "Now go!" snaps the man in charge. Each reporter rushes to a phone and tries to get central office ahead of the rest. Bang! goes the flashlight of some news photographer. In a few minutes the papers in New York, Boston and Chicago have the figures ready to print. Almost as soon, some of the radio stations are shooting out the news to thousands of radio-owning farmers in the back country.

There is small chance these days for dealers to get ahead of growers, so far as the market is based on the official crop reports. After the last cotton report, which showed quite an increase in production, the markets declined sharply, having apparently been taken by surprise. Yet, if the dealers had studied the official semi-monthly crop notes and the reports issued by the various cotton States, it would have been easy to foretell just about what the monthly report would be.

2a. COOPERATIVES HANDLE \$2,000,000,000 BUSINESS.

The Division of Agricultural Cooperation has made estimates of the 1923 business of cooperative associations, based on reports of 8,313 organizations whose records had been classified up to and including November 27. The names of more than 9,000 farmers' business organizations have been listed, and possibly two or three thousand were yet to report. About 90% of the 8,313 associations thus far classified are engaged primarily in selling farm products, and about 10% in collective purchasing for farmers. Fruit and vegetable organizations numbered 956, or 11.5% of the total number, and handled approximately a \$280,000,000 business in 1923. The business of 2,600 grain organizations amounted to \$490,000,000, and 1,841 dairy products associations transacted business to the amount of \$300,000,000, thus making fruits and vegetables rank third in the entire list of a dozen general types of associations. Although the live stock organizations numbered 1,182, their business totaled only \$220,000,000, or \$60,000,000 less than fruits and vegetables. Without much doubt, the aggregate business of all cooperative farmers' organizations in the United States passed the \$2,000,000,000 mark.

3a. WESTERN FRUIT JOBBERS CONVENTION.

The Western Fruit Jobbers Association of America held its 20th annual meeting at Kansas City, January 9-11, 1924. Mr. Samson, who attended the convention, brought back a copy of the "Report of the Secretary." This booklet contains some brief references to the work of this Bureau, including a list of products for which grades have been established, and a comprehensive summary of the report of Secretary Wallace. Car peddling and the peddler nuisance are condemned; the evils of refrigeration car detention explained; and economy and efficiency in marketing urged. Cooperative marketing laws now in effect in many States are discussed, and the standard hamper and basket bill is approved by this organization.

An extensive advertising program is outlined, and the "prune campaign" conducted in Idaho summarized. A tabulation of results obtained in eleven cities is interesting, demonstrating a marked increase in consumption following the campaign, which had been focused mostly upon a notably poor prune-consuming territory. Immediate steps toward advertising were urged to circumvent the growing sentiment in favor of cooperative marketing.

4a. "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 12.

The weekly review, on page 21, contains a special section, covering the apple situation. W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, has an article on the Chicago potato market on page 23, and there is also a special story and chart, showing the usual sources of tomato supply in large markets. A filler at the bottom of page 22 refers to apple consumption and imports in France. An interesting article on the Japanese peanut situation appears on the back page, under Foreign Crops and Markets, together with an account of Australia's subsidizing its soft fruit industry. It will be observed that Fruits and Vegetables has been given second position in the regular weekly issues of the paper, immediately following Live Stock, Meats and Wool.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. MARKET REPORTS USED IN SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.

The New York office keeps a careful record of market reports sent on special request for use in claim cases. The following letter of January 11 from O. D. Miller tells of the extent of this work:

"Our 1923 records of applications for Government market reports to be used in the settlement of claims show that the agencies making greatest use of our service for this purpose have been the Pennsylvania Railroad; the American Railway Express Co.; the Erie Railroad and the New York Central. Other carriers which made several applications were the Florida East Coast Railway; the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway; the Boston and Maine Railroad, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. The only applicant who indicated the amounts involved in the claims to be decided on this basis was the Philadelphia office of the Pennsylvania Railroad. These amounts totaled \$12,000 for the year."

"Numerous requests have come from 10 or 12 commercial traffic agents, mostly located in eastern cities, and from dealers in fruits and vegetables in almost every State of the Union. A number of cooperative associations also applied for market reports for this purpose."

"Agencies making many requests have been urged to take the reports regularly, and of course it is impossible for us to estimate how many of our other regular subscribers are making this use of the service."

"Several cases have come to our attention in which important adjustments between shippers and receivers, shippers and carriers, and receivers and carriers have been made out of court on the basis of the reports. Several persons on the local market, carriers, and traffic agents have commended the seasonal summaries which we have issued this year on several important fruits and vegetables, telling us that these were particularly valuable in the settling of claims."

2b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FROM MARKET STATIONS.

Some of the market stations apparently have overlooked the preparation of their semi-annual reports of activities for the second half of 1923. Thus far, only three or four of these reports have been received in Washington. All other offices should submit their statements promptly.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery*	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Jan. 12*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples#	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes#	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions#	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 31
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 1
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.

** State Dept. cooperating.

Tri-weekly.

R. M. Peterson

G. A. DeHaven)

J. D. Evers) to Florida for

R. H. Lamb) inspection work.

S. W. Russell)

W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. FURTHER REPORTS OF WORK IN SOUTH TEXAS.

J. Harold Hoover, in a letter of January 10, reported that 30 certificates were issued the first week of inspection work at Mercedes and San Benito in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Satisfactory progress is being made and most of the shippers seem to be very well pleased with the service. Mr. Hoover adds:

"In my last letter I wrote that there would be very few cars of No. 1 cabbage out of the Valley this season. Cold weather has greatly improved the quality and most of the shippers have requested that we attempt to cull the stock close enough to make a fair No. 1 grade. This has been done with fairly good results up to the present time, and practically all cabbage shipments which we have inspected have graded Texas No. 1. It is hoped that we will be able to do this for the entire season, but certain conditions might arise that would make this impossible after a short time. The local inspectors have been instructed to pass any head that is fairly firm but to throw out all split, burst or yellow heads and seed stems. The stock that we are designating as 'reasonably hard' would not come up to that term as it is used for northern cabbage, but I am sure that we are grading it well enough so that there will be very little trouble in the receiving markets.

"At present, the beets and carrots are of fine quality and we are having no trouble in getting them graded up to No. 1 requirements. A few potatoes have been moving in mixed cars, and the size and quality is generally very good. There will be a large potato acreage in the Valley this year and I look for a large amount of potato inspection work in the spring."

2c. MR. LEWIS REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN TEXAS.

In a letter of January 11, from the Mercedes Hotel, Mercedes, Texas, Wm. E. Lewis states the following among other things:

"Arrived here this noon and expect to remain for a week or two. Am very glad that I came to this section. Have gotten more information here in one afternoon than I got in all the time I was in Louisiana. Of course, in this district, I have the Texas grades to work on.

"Tomorrow I am going into the country with a man from the American Fruit Growers, and next week I shall visit the surrounding towns which are the largest shipping points.

"The weather has been cool but not enough to do any damage. Shippers state that the best of stock is just about to come in. What I have seen looks very good, and if they have any better it must be extra fine quality.

"The American Fruit Growers have an icing plant here, and all of their stock is precooled. It is packed in round bushel baskets. These are loaded full length of car, 6 stacks next each bunker, 4 layers high, remainder 3 layers high. About 50 to 60 fifty-pound cakes of ice are then distributed over top of load.

"The American Fruit Growers' manager states that he is not using the shipping-point inspection service, because stock is shipped to his own concern; because there were only three railroad claims out of 500 cars shipped last season; and for other good reasons."

3c. USE OF FEDERAL GRADES IN RECEIVING-POINT CERTIFICATION.

M. A. Russell, of the Chicago office, has called attention to the failure on the part of a number of our receiving-point Inspectors to certify definitely according to recommended or tentative Federal grades. The following is quoted from his letter:

"In reading certificates of the Central District during the past few months, my attention has been attracted to the fact that, in many offices, the Inspectors are not reporting on the basis of the U.S. grades on a number of commodities for which grades are established and now in use in some of the leading shipping districts. The products which I have in mind are peaches, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, onions and tomatoes. Even though the inspections are requested principally for condition, the Inspector can never be sure that the shipper or receiver will not at some future date require a copy of the report for use in settlement of some dispute on quality and grade. Even when the application comes from the carrier and is to be used in adjustment of claims for deterioration, it may be very desirable for the interested parties to know whether or not the claim should be settled on the basis of U.S. Grade No. 1 value. In addition to the above commodities, I believe that reports should be made according to U.S. grades on barreled apples, strawberries, celery, cucumbers, sweet potatoes and Florida citrus fruit, whenever it is at all probable that the stock was packed according to these grades or whenever the Inspector is informed that it was sold as 'No. 1 stock.' Judging from the certificates coming to this office, one or two of our Inspectors are reporting grade only on potatoes and northwestern apples. The use of the grades will not only increase the average usefulness of the certificates, but will also help to familiarize the trade with the U.S. grades.

"I believe that the above is strictly in line with Handbook Par. 227 and 230. It does not apply, of course, in case of inspections made for condition only on account of previous inspection of the shipment."

It is well recognized that the use of recommended and tentative Federal grades by our Inspection Service has been a very important factor in furthering the use of such grades. It leads both shippers and receivers to make inquiries as to the exact specifications of the grades and gives the shipper and receiver a more definite basis for settling differences of opinion. This is particularly true when the general term "No. 1" is used in connection with any transaction. The shipper and receiver each have a rather indefinite idea of the requirements of this term, because no authority has fixed its specifications. Our recommended and tentative grades, on the other hand, are specific.

Our use of specific grades, whenever possible, will result in the trade use of these terms, and the Inspectors therefore should certify in accordance with such grades, unless they have definite knowledge that the product has been sold under different specifications. Handbook paragraphs 227 and 230 make general recommendations for the use of such grades.

F. G. ROEB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Market reports on citrus fruit have been started at Orlando, Fla., by J. D. Evers. No price information will be included, but the daily bulletins will show carlot shipments of the respective fruits; passings and diversions at principal points; weather, arrivals, cars on track, and number of cars offered at the auctions in leading markets. This news service is on a cooperative basis with the State of Florida and citrus shippers.

J. W. Park advises that destination information published in potato market reports at Grand Forks, N. Dak. is not of especial interest at this time of year and it has been discontinued in order to save money. Bulletins are now being issued only three times a week. Mr. Park states that the feature of most interest to shippers in the Red River Valley is the daily report of carlot shipments, as this is an index of competition to be expected in terminal markets.

R. M. Peterson was in the Washington office Monday. He resumed his trip, by automobile, to Florida on Tuesday morning, and expected to reach Leesburg by the end of the week. He was delayed in Wisconsin, on account of snow drifts and bad roads.

M. W. Baker returned to duty in the Pittsburgh office of the Inspection Service on January 15. At the same time, G. R. Warren, who had been assisting in Pittsburgh, resumed charge of the work in Philadelphia.

Last Friday and Saturday, W. H. Steinbauer, of the Washington staff, was at Winchester, Va., and Kabletown, W. Va., inspecting apples in storage. Four carloads were inspected at Winchester. A telegraphic request received this morning calls him back to Charles Town, W. Va., for the purpose of handling additional inspections of apples.

The early part of next week, F. E. Bailey, of Spokane, expects to attend a Farmers' Week meeting at Corvallis, Oregon, where he will demonstrate the U. S. grades for potatoes.

Louis H. Wulfekuhl, of the Cincinnati Market News office, has been appointed as a Market Station Assistant, effective January 16, and placed permanently in charge of the reporting work in that city. Mr. Wulfekuhl served as a clerk since May, 1921. Charles J. Cole, who has been messenger in the Cincinnati office nearly four years, resigned on January 12.

Increase of the cooperative news service in Texas has resulted in the appointment of George E. Endress, to handle the radio broadcasting at Austin, and of L. Hamilton Lowe, as a clerk in the Austin office.

A loop of the southwestern leased wire was installed in our F. & V. office at Fort Worth on January 15, thus making it no longer necessary to transmit messages by telephone or messenger from the Live Stock headquarters in that city to our office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

John L. McClure, formerly with the Bureau of Animal Industry, has been appointed in Mr. Patton's section to take the place recently vacated by John M. McLaughlin. He will assist with early-morning tabulations of shipments.

C. W. Hauck expects to attend the annual convention of the National Cannery Association at Buffalo, N.Y., next week. He is on the Thursday program to discuss the standardization of cannery tomatoes. The Department will have an exhibit at this meeting, which will include colored photographs of the proposed grades for cannery tomatoes.

F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago staff, is at Appleton, Wis., today in the interest of shipping-point inspection work. On Friday, he will be at Duluth, Minn., for the purpose of reinspecting some apples in cold storage.

Miss Mayme Parker, who has been assisting with the work of the Classification Board since last spring, has completed that assignment and was transferred today to Dr. Stine's section, where she will be employed in the unit handling the reports of cold storage holdings. Miss Parker was appointed to the Market News Service in the early part of 1916. For quite a while, she was in charge of the group preparing the weekly summary of carlot shipments. Upon the transfer of the Excess Wool Profits work from the War Industries Board four years ago, Miss Parker was given a prominent part in that work, which she retained until the spring of 1923. We regret to lose Miss Parker after her long period of effective service.

Among the State or local inspectors assisting in Florida shipping-point work are T. M. Myers (Orlando), who was formerly connected with our Grades and Standards project; D. M. James, K.W. Schaible and R. H. Von Glom, formerly on shipping-point work in New Jersey (all at Homestead); and R. L. Sutton (Homestead), who was a cooperative market reporter in New York City.

H. A. Spilman will go to New Jersey this evening. He is scheduled to attend a meeting of the State Horticultural Society at Trenton on Friday in the interest of the package standardization work. Next Thursday, Mr. Spilman will appear before a Union Agricultural Meeting at the Hotel Garde, Hartford, Conn., where representatives of five Connecticut organizations will be in convention. His subject on that occasion will be: "Progress of Standardization of Containers."

Word from S. H. Fountain, Navy Inspector at Vallejo, Calif., indicates that the work there is progressing nicely and that they are getting fine quality of produce. The Naval Hospital and the Marine Corps especially have made complimentary remarks on the quality of goods received. Mr. Fountain's office telephone number is Vallejo 891, and his residence is 1118 Carolina St. An article relating to this new work on the Pacific Coast will appear in "Crops and Markets" for the coming Saturday, January 19.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. E. Hooper, located at Fort Myers, Fla., advises that the cucumber movement from that section is finished. Peppers are dwindling, but he expected to have 10 cars of mixed vegetables this week. Three cars recently were shipped, showing 2% to 3% decay in the peppers, described as bacterial soft rot. It was necessary to pick a lot of immature peppers to avoid sun-scalding, and such stock is graded by the packing house men under three designations: "Best," "Next" and "Reds."

Heavy rains held up the early movement of tomatoes on the lower East Coast of Florida. The first car was inspected by W. V. Stephens' force at Homestead on January 9, and two more cars were inspected the next day.

The entire output of three packing plants at Clearwater, Fla., is being inspected by B. E. Shaffer and his staff of men. The finished certificates are furnished to the shippers every evening. Some frost damage occurred to tomatoes, cucumbers and other tender plants, but citrus groves were not injured. Many of the packing houses were running light, however, on account of the cold weather.

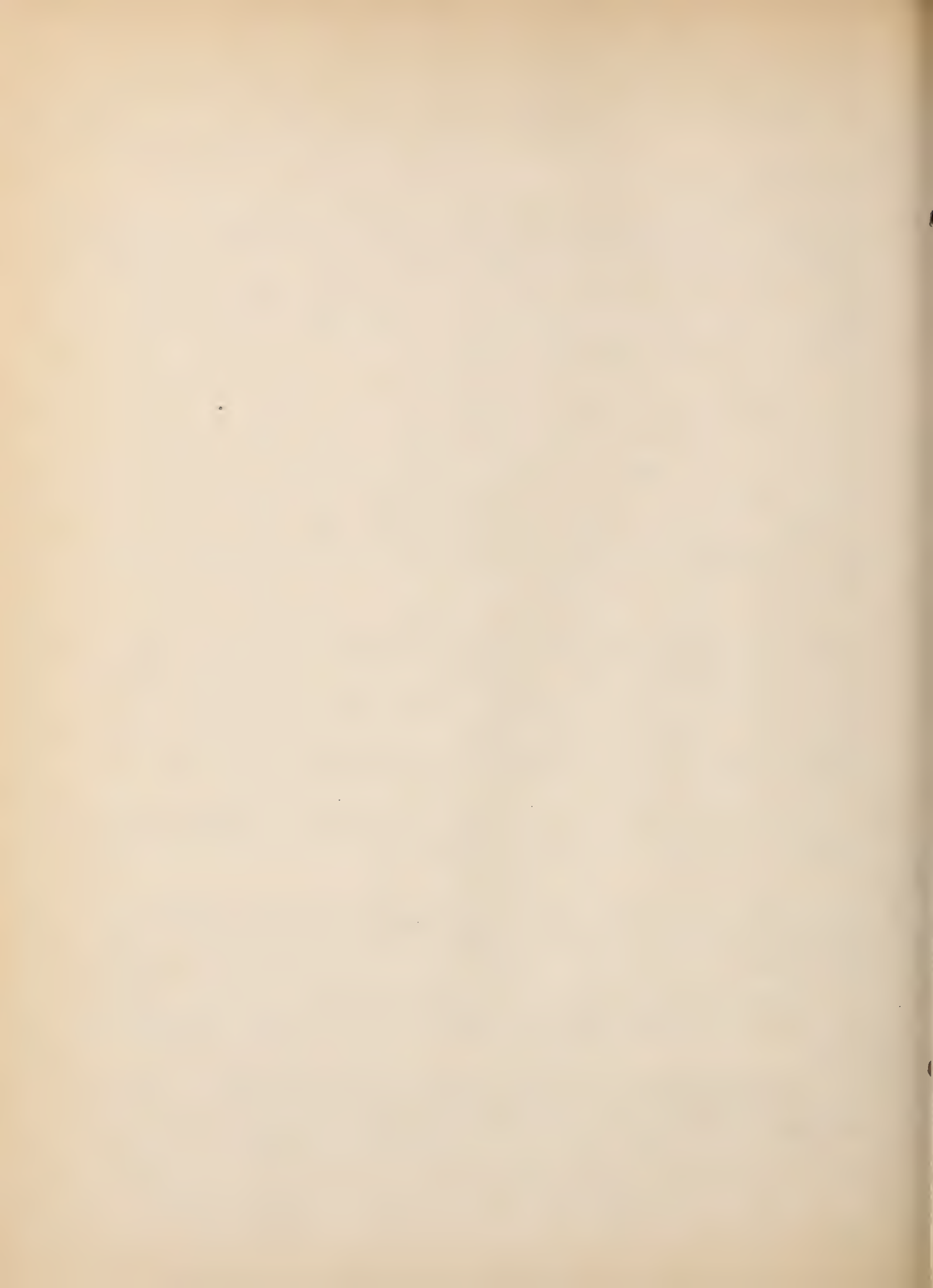
P. D. Rupert, at Sanford, Fla., reports that one large grower of celery, Mr. Bell, of Lake Monroe, is placing in each of his cars a 10" x 12" card, on which is printed in heavy type: "U.S. No. 1 Celery, loaded by Bell Brothers, Lake Monroe, Fla." He also places on the card the car number and the manifest showing the sizes. Mr. Bell got the idea from a similar card relative to potatoes, found in one of the empty cars from the North. Other shippers in the Sanford section are beginning to realize the value of such a notice, and plan to follow Mr. Bell's example.

Grapefruit is moving in increasing volume from the Lakeland district of Florida. Auburndale probably will have about 30 cars a week, and good tonnage is expected from Dundee and Plant City.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., recently visited Fort Myers, Fla., and made the round of the vegetable and citrus packing houses in that section. He has prepared some tentative specifications for grades on eggplant, beans and flat squash.

Admer D. Miller, formerly of the F. & V. Division and now associated with the Fruit Auction Company, New York, visited our Orlando office on Monday.

NEW ADDRESS LISTS of Inspection offices and Market Stations are being distributed with this Division Letter. Please immediately destroy all former lists in your office and use only the revised sheets.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 4.

January 24, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. MORE NEWS FROM SOUTH TEXAS.

On January 18, Wm. E. Lewis wrote, in part, as follows from Mercedes, Texas:

"Shipments from this section have been retarded considerably on account of several weeks of wet weather. It has now been clear for several days and, if this weather keeps up, there will be a big increase in the vegetable shipments from this district. Total carlot shipments from the Lower Rio Grande Valley up to and including January 15 were 438 cars, divided as follows: Beets and carrots, 156 cars; cabbage, 103; grapefruit and oranges, 47; string beans, 13; spinach, 6; potatoes, 5; lemons, 1; and mixed cars, 107.

"There are several million young cabbage plants being shipped by express from the Valley to Alabama. These people had planned on a much heavier acreage of cabbage, but were unable to plant on account of the weather, and it is the surplus stock which they are shipping out.

~~Carrots~~"Cabbage and beets are shipped in round bushel baskets, holding 40 to 48 bunches and weighing 45 to 50 pounds. Generally 4 to 7 beets or carrots are tied in a bunch and the tops cut to 6 or 8 inches. The baskets are so filled that it is difficult for an experienced man to force the covers on. Before loading into cars, the baskets are put into a tank of water for a few minutes to wash and freshen the stock. At the American Fruit Growers' plant here, the stock is washed in this way and goes into a pre-cooling room before loading into the cars.

"At the present time, cabbage is loaded mostly in bulk, with → shaped ventilating spaces in each end of car. Some cabbage is crated; some of the crates at Mercedes hold about 90 to 100 pounds, and at Brownsville there are crates holding 150 pounds, it is claimed. Some crates have three slats, while others have four slats on each side.

"Have noted potatoes (Bliss Triumph) and lettuce (New York Special or Wonderful) packed in bushel hampers. The lettuce is not headed well; the heads are fairly firm, but the leaf formation is loose around the base of the plant.

"People in this Valley are highly enthusiastic about citrus fruit and think it is going to surpass California eventually. There is a large quantity of young stock planted, and if the majority of these trees come into bearing the Valley will attract some attention in a few years. There have been several frosts, but I am told that it has not been cold enough to start smudge fires this season.

"During the past week I have been traveling about the country with our Crop Estimates man, Mr. Charles Sperle. In this way I have covered the outlying sections quite thoroughly and very economically. Am planning to go into the fields here with the foremen from the different packing establishments which are using our inspection service. The shippers wish to have the poor stock culled out in the fields rather than at the packing houses. *** There is not much spinach raised here, most of it being grown around Austin."

(Page 35)

2a. ORDER SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT ON BUREAU FORM AE-88.

All office supplies and additional furniture and equipment should be requested on Bureau Form AE-88, "Supplies Requisition." It happens quite frequently that requests for various supplies and equipment are incorporated in letters. This necessitates the preparation, in Washington, of the formal requisition, which should have been submitted by the person making the request. If you have an old typewriter which you consider beyond repair and need a new machine, or if you desire additional filing equipment, or blank forms, for instance, fill out your order on the Form AE-88, to accompany the communication in which you explain your need, even though you may not be certain as to whether your request or suggestion may be adopted. Requests for other than the usual office supplies should be supported by explanations, as the Washington office desires to know the situation before it proceeds to make the purchase. Men traveling in the field, as well as branch offices, should keep a reasonable supply of requisition forms on hand.

3a. GRADES FOR CANNERY TOMATOES MEETING WITH FAVOR.

Chas. W. Hauck has returned from Buffalo, where he addressed the National Canners' Association on the subject: "Standardization of Cannery Tomatoes." Mr. Hauck reports that the principle of buying cannery tomatoes on grade is meeting with considerable interest among canners of tomatoes and tomato products, and that several manufacturers have indicated their intention to try out the proposed Federal standards as a basis for their buying next season. One large manufacturer in southern New Jersey has incorporated the U.S. No. 1 grade in his agreements with the growers. In western New York the grades will be used by one large operator on a portion of the acreage under contract for 1924. Indiana canners have assured the Bureau that they are heartily in accord with the efforts being made to formulate a fair and workable system of grading, and have offered their cooperation in getting such a system established uniformly in that State.

The tentative grades were approved and adopted unanimously by the Tri-State Packers' Association recently at their convention in Philadelphia. This organization represents the cannery interests of Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey. These proposed grades probably will be established as legal grades in New Jersey by the Bureau of Markets of the State Dept. of Agriculture.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. QUOTING ASKED OR OFFERED PRICES.

Practically no response has been observed to item 7b in the Division Letter of January 3, urging that sales be quoted whenever possible, and that the term "Too few sales reported to quote" be included in the reports only as a last resort. On some days, a majority of the wires from certain stations have stated "Too few sales reported to quote" or "No early sales reported." Such a wire may be an accurate picture of the situation while the reporter was on the market, but it is of no value in giving assistance to a shipper whose produce is selling on the market that day or to a railroad that is required to pay a claim on the basis of that day's market.

If sufficient actual sales can not be secured so that the reporter feels that a market has been established, more worth will be attached to the report if one of two courses is followed:- If the market has been reasonably active the preceding afternoon, closing prices can be obtained and so designated in the wire. If the entire preceding day was dull, possibly the best thing to quote is the current morning's asked or offered prices. Asked prices can practically always be obtained; it will rarely be necessary to secure offered prices.

The inclusion of asked or offered prices in the report of a dull market, when a record of actual sales could not be obtained, was authorized in Par. 2b in the Division Letter of September 15, 1921, but very few reports have been received in which such quotations are given. It is, of course, easier on a dull market for the reporter to say "Too few sales to establish market" or "No early sales reported" than to inquire around sufficiently to get a reasonable range of asked prices, and we do not insist that it be done in all cases, but the reporter should keep in mind the needs of the readers of the bulletin and endeavor to secure some sort of quotations that will be helpful to them. Our only object in requesting this additional detail is the same object that impels the publication of any market reports,- the desire to be of assistance to as large a percentage of those receiving our market reports as possible.

Do not designate asked or offered prices in the reports as "nominal" prices. "Nominal," indicating that very few sales were made but that goods can be bought at the prices given, may be a term in good use on the market, but its exact meaning probably would not be clear to many of our readers and it should not be used in the published reports.

2b. TABULATION OF ARRIVALS IN CHICAGO.

The Chicago office has just issued a special sheet, showing in detail the arrivals of 33 different fruits and vegetables, besides miscellaneous products, during each month of 1923. The figures represent carloads and include freight, express, and boat arrivals, but not truck receipts. In the Total column, segregation is made of freight, express and boat arrivals, and the grade total is compared with grand total for 1922. The year 1923 shows an increase of 15,000 carloads over 1922, most of the gain being in apples, lettuce, oranges and potatoes. Potatoes come first, with a total of 23,578 cars; apples second, with 14,923 cars; grapes third, with 9,295 cars; oranges fourth, with 7,248 cars, and lettuce fifth, with 5,843 cars. Grand total of the 33 products and miscellaneous receipts is 101,720 cars.

3b. PRESS RELEASES IN PHILADELPHIA.

Contact with the Associated Press in Philadelphia was made by Mr. Biddle a short while ago, and he is now sending Philadelphia market reports on 10 to 15 leading products to Atlantic City evening papers by this means. Philadelphia, New York and Newark market information on New Jersey products is sent by the United Press Association to an evening paper in South Jersey, both of these releases being headed by market comments. Daily complete local market reports are published in four of the city newspapers, - in morning editions. Mr. Biddle's office also prepares weekly comments on the near-by produce market for the Business Section of the Thursday Philadelphia Ledger, a news story on the wholesale market appearing in the Friday issue. The peanut report is published on Wednesday morning, and from time to time a paragraph on conditions in the peanut sections is released through the Ledger.

4b. QUOTATIONS ON FLORIDA CELERY.

In order to furnish as nearly as possible the kind of information desired by growers and shippers of Florida celery, it is requested that each market reporter give quotations on stock "in the rough" as frequently as possible. Perhaps the major portion of the information now being received covers that kind of stock, but, if so, it should be stated.

5b. IMPORTANT LETTUCE INFORMATION FROM IMPERIAL VALLEY.

California standardization laws require that lettuce in that State be put up in "square pack" of 3 to 5 dozen heads in a crate. The point of this requirement is to eliminate the $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$ -dozen packs and thereby prevent the irregularities which have occurred in the past. However, because the trade generally favors a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -dozen pack, the Horticultural Commissioner in Imperial Valley probably will not technically enforce that portion of the law. Every effort is being made, however, to cut out the $4\frac{1}{2}$ -dozen pack, according to information from C. E. Schultz, of El Centro, under date of January 15.

At present, considerable stock is being wasted because it will not pack 4-dozen, and the market on a 5-dozen pack is too low to make it profitable to ship that size. According to Mr. Schultz' understanding of the situation, the larger shippers, like the American Fruit Growers, are in favor of the Horticultural Commissioner's stand on this subject (-to stop the packing of $4\frac{1}{2}$ -dozen crates), while some of the smaller operators are inclined to think that they should be permitted to ship $4\frac{1}{2}$'s when the markets readily absorb that size at no discount under $3\frac{1}{2}$'s or 4's.

With respect to the 5-dozen crates, Mr. Schultz thinks that there will be material improvement noticeable in the size of stock going into such packs.

In any event, very little stock is supposed to be packed and shipped as $4\frac{1}{2}$ -dozens from the Imperial Valley, and this point should be carefully watched by market reporters, so that our quotations may not be subject to question as to their accuracy.

The U.S. grades for lettuce are being used quite generally this year in the buying and selling at shipping points in the Valley, and Mr. Schultz intends to quote on that basis so long as sufficient shipments come up to the grade requirements.

-Continued-

Opinion is increasing among the operators that the crop will fall far short of original estimates. The acreage was at first estimated locally at 18,777 acres, compared with 14,132 last season. Much of this was planted to the early crop, but unfavorable weather conditions permitted the harvesting of scarcely more than 600 carloads in December, when around 2,000 cars had been expected. A heavy rain the last of December caused much ripe stock to burst, become leafy and send up seed stalks. For nearly two weeks, nights have been cold and considerable damage from frost is becoming more and more apparent. Most of the frost injury, however, is only on the outer leaves, which are trimmed before packing. In view of the fact that plantings for later harvesting constitute about 60% of the total and are in good condition, shipments from this acreage possibly will be up to normal, and probably 8,000 cars will be marketed this season, instead of only 6,000 as some shippers are predicting.

6b. ASPARAGUS PROSPECTS IN SOUTH.

T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, in a letter of January 19 advises that Georgia this season has approximately 2,500 acres of asparagus in bearing, which will mean probably 300 carloads or more. The asparagus in that State is mostly around Fort Valley and Marshallville, with some plantings in other counties. The South Carolina Asparagus Growers' Association expects to handle most of the 150 cars which probably will come from that State. Principal shipping points are Williston, Piuge Spring and Trenton. Harvesting season will begin early in March and run until about the middle of May in both States.

It is likely that Mr. Curry will issue market reports on this crop for the special benefit of growers and shippers in that territory. Weather, Crops and Markets for March 17 (page 231) and April 7 (pages 316 and 324) last year contain special article on asparagus, which will be of interest in this connection.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. NEWS FROM FLORIDA.

In the last issue of the Florida Weekly News Letter, Mr. Bier warns shipping-point inspectors to be on the outlook for Stem End Rot in citrus fruit. Recent heavy rains throughout the State have brought about a condition favorable to the spread of this trouble. Inspectors are told to watch for clipper cuts, bruises, and stem punctures, through which injuries Blue Mold gains entrance. Ammoniated and creased fruit will not carry, and local inspectors are reminded that such fruit belongs in U.S. No. 3 grade.

Inspections of lettuce have had to be discontinued at all points, because condition and quality of the stock prevent it from meeting grade requirements. Tip Burn and Slimy Rot have been prevalent in most cars inspected during the past two weeks.

Present indications are that at least half the total celery shipments from Florida, will be inspected at shipping points. Most cars already moved have graded U.S. No. 1. About 300 carloads were expected from the Sanford section this week, and about 150 from the Manatee district. Principal defects that have thrown cars out of grade are pithy and worm-eaten stalks, and pink rot. In case of worm injury, the inner side of the stalk has been furrowed from a third to the entire length of the stem or stalk. Some stalks show the effect of blight. An occasional car, especially at times of rainy weather, has shown a slimy condition on some branches.

Principal defects in tomatoes now being loaded on the East Coast of Florida are puffiness, catfaces, immaturity and mechanical injuries. Mr. Stephens, at Homestead, also reports some tomatoes showing nailhead spot or early blight and blossom-end rot. Heavy rains during the second week of January did considerable damage. On the 17th, Mr. Stephens reported 8 cars of tomatoes out that day, and he expected that the work would increase until a total of 25 to 30 cars per day is reached.

Mr. Hooper, at Fort Myers, reports peppers in that territory still in poor shape. Many carloads are off-grade, partly as a result of rainy weather. He advises that many of the peppers are brittle and thin-fleshed.

2c. A CAUTION:

At this season of the year it is frequently necessary for Inspectors to work under unfavorable light conditions. This is particularly true of work done in cars and frequently true in storages. Under a dim or an unnatural light, conditions frequently appear quite different than under good natural light. A number of mistakes have been made recently in identification of scald, partly at least because of poor lighting conditions.

It is just as important for an Inspector to be a competent judge of what constitutes proper light as it is for him to be able to identify properly plant diseases. To fail in the first may mean error in the second. If the Inspector finds that lighting facilities are inadequate at the place in which he is compelled to work, he should take questionable specimens to natural light in order to avoid errors. This applies not only to such matters as scald and other diseases, the characteristics of which may be uncertain in poor light, but also to the color of apples, oranges and other products. A lot of apples

(Continued)

which seems to be on the border-line of color on a dark day or in unnatural light may be found to be clearly in grade when examined in good natural light. Inspectors are particularly cautioned against deciding such matters when the flashlight is the only available source of light.

Inspectors are also cautioned against making decisions in questionable cases without sending specimens to the Supervising Inspector of their district or to Washington. A number of inspection certificates have been reversed in the last two weeks because of failure on the part of the Inspector to realize the unfavorable lighting conditions under which he worked and because of his failure to submit questionable specimens to the office of the Supervisor. To request information in doubtful cases never reflects upon the ability of the Inspector. To make a mistake when correct information could have been obtained raises a question in the minds of his superiors both as to his ability and his attitude toward the service.

Send more samples of questionable stock to your Supervisor or to Washington. Ask questions, whenever in doubt. Be sure that there has been no possibility of error in your determinations. Remember that you are as much under oath as a witness who is testifying in court.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Leaving Washington this Friday, F. M. Patton expects to make an extensive trip to the South and Southwest, to complete arrangements for the consolidation of telegraphic reports of shipments and to develop a new system of passings reports for field stations of the Market News Service. His itinerary includes the following points: Petersburg, Va.; Savannah, Ga.; Jacksonville, Sanford and Orlando, Fla.; New Orleans, La.; Palestine, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and Austin, Texas; and Memphis, Tenn.

CORRECTION: John D. Snow, of the Denver office, has called attention to two omissions in production tables published in the December 29 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets. On page 680, production of lettuce is given in "Crates or Hampers." It is intended to read "1,000 Crates or Hampers." In a similar manner, the production of onions, on page 681, is given in "Bushels." It should be "1,000 Bushels." The omission of the three zeros is apparent, when you multiply acres by yield per acre.

A. S. Walp has been assisting with inspections in New York City, in the course of his Vocational Education training under the auspices of the Veterans' Bureau.

Crops and Markets for January 19 is an exceptionally big issue, including the monthly Supplement. Its issuance has been delayed through the large amount of material to be published. Release cannot be effected until Friday or Saturday of this week. This will explain why you have not yet received your copy. It will be well worth your careful reading, when received, as it contains much valuable material, including the annual review of the fruit and vegetable markets, etc., etc.

All of the principal celery shippers in the Sanford section, except the Florida Vegetable Corporation (which controls possibly 50% of the tonnage), have agreed to cooperate in financing our field station at that point to the extent of about \$300, provided the market reports on celery are continued until at least April 10.

R. C. Butner has visited peanut-shelling companies and other interested persons in the vicinity of Atlanta, Ga., and has now gone into Texas on this investigational trip. He was at New Orleans last Saturday; at Houston on Monday and Tuesday; and San Antonio yesterday and today; and will be at Fort Worth on Friday and Saturday; Memphis on Monday; St. Louis on Tuesday, returning to Chicago by January 30. In addition to looking into the use of peanut grades, Mr. Butner is visiting the inspection offices at points where our men are located.

H. T. Longino, of the Houston office, went to New Orleans on Wednesday to help with the rush of inspection work the remainder of the week.

F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago office, who was at Duluth last Friday to reinspect some apples, reports that the temperature at that time was 26° below zero.

OFFICE NOTES:(Continued)

James A. Marks, in charge of the shipping-point inspection of potatoes at Avoca, N.Y., was in New York City on Wednesday in connection with this work.

Older employees of this Division will remember Manley Stockton, formerly connected with the Grades and Standards project. For quite a while after leaving the Bureau, Mr. Stockton was associated with apple interests around Biglerville, Adams County, Pa. At present, he is working in the crop insurance division of the Hartford Insurance Company, with headquarters in Florida, and stopped at the Washington office a short time today, en route to Philadelphia.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., advises that, until further notice, he can be reached in care of Robert Bier, Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, Fla.

V. V. Westgate, of the Omaha office, has been authorized to attend the Wyoming State Potato Show and Convention, to be held at Pine Bluffs from January 31 to February 2. He will discuss the grading of potatoes and the inspection work of this Bureau. Mr. Westgate also will confer with local inspectors in the western part of Nebraska on this trip.

Gilbert B. Woodd has recently been appointed as mimeograph operator in the San Francisco office of the Market News Service.

T.C.J. Baker and Mrs. D.P. Dinsmore, two of the Washington force who met with automobile accidents a few weeks ago, have both returned to duty. Frank A. Clark, whose leg was broken in a similar accident before Christmas, is still in the Emergency Hospital.

No list of field stations is published in this Division Letter, because the list as printed last week is unchanged.

IMPORTANT CHANGES: A serious oversight occurred in the revision of the Inspectors' Address List, distributed during the past week. We failed to correct Mr. Hackleman's residence address, under New York City. Please change your copy so that it reads as follows: 69 - 28th St., Jackson Heights, N.Y.; phone Havermeyer 3000, Ex. 117. Do this now, before you forget it.

Minor changes (one received since the new list was published) are as follows: The letter on Mr. Cauble's phone number in Denver should be "R" instead of "W", making it read: South 7065-R. The office phone number for Mr. Larson, at Los Angeles, should be changed from 65140 to 885-140. Under Houston, Texas, Mr. Longino's middle initial should be "T" instead of "F."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 5.

January 31, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. PACIFIC NORTHWEST APPLE MEETING.

According to recent advices from George E. Prince, of the Spokane office, he attended most of the meetings of the Pacific Northwest Congress on apple marketing, instituted by the Washington State Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Yakima Commercial Club. This gathering was held at Yakima, January 15 - 17, and its general object was to find some plan for the better marketing of the northwestern apple crop.

The meeting was largely attended by growers, bankers, shippers and other persons interested in the marketing of apples, some 500 being present. It seems to have been chiefly a meeting of committees, they reporting to the general assembly at specified times. Principal speakers were Fred W. Read, formerly of our F. & V. Division and now Manager of the Standardization Department, California Fruit Exchange, who outlined the successful program followed by his organization in the marketing of deciduous fruits of California, and I. D. Hunt, Vice President of the Ladd and Tilton Bank, Portland, Oregon, who talked on the need of a better marketing program and the deplorable conditions now existing in the Northwest.

Several plans were offered at the meeting, which ended by having the chairman, Mr. Coffman, appoint a committee of five to look into these different plans and recommend something definite at a later date.

Under date of January 22, D. O. Lively, who was Secretary of the Fruit Congress, sent out the following circular letter to all interested persons:-

"You will remember that at the Fruit Congress at Yakima, President Coffman was requested to appoint a committee of 5 growers to consider plans looking toward organization. You will also call to mind his declaration that there would be nothing done that could be construed as tearing down any part of the edifice that has been built up by initiative and out of the needs of the industry.

"In addition to hearing the principal speakers, these things were done:

1. A federation of apple cooperatives of Washington and Oregon.
2. A survey on apple storage. The State Chamber has this under way.
3. A survey was requested of the apple by-products situation. The State Chamber has this under way.
4. The comprehensive and tolerant report of the Transportation Committee, which has been referred to the railroads and to the members of Congress from this state.
5. The Committee on National Advertising advocated a campaign, based on a general trade name truly representative of Northwestern apples.
6. Exporting apples will be done in an orderly manner, if the plan of the Exportation Committee is put into effect.
7. The banks of the Pacific Northwest represented at Yakima volunteered to advance funds to be used in the preliminary work of organization, looking to carrying out the recommendations of the Yakima meeting."

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2a. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MATERIAL IN "CROPS AND MARKETS."

In the future, no reference will be made on this page to the regular weekly material in "Crops and Markets," such as the front-page summary of markets or the three weekly tables accompanying the review. Attention will be called only to special articles, so that due credit may be given authors. Special material in recent issues is as follows:

Paper for January 19, 1924.

Page.

- 37 - Special paragraph on cabbage in weekly review.
- 38 - Nebraska Seed Potatoes, - by J. D. Snow.
- 39 - Carrots in Good Demand, - by C. L. Brown.
Inspection Service at Vallejo, Calif., - by S. H. Fountain.
Strawberries in Florida (filler).
Spinach plantings in Webb and Travis Counties, Texas (filler).
- 41 - Early Tomato Prospects in Florida (filler).
- 45 - Cabbage acreage in Florida (filler).
- 48 - Peanut situation in Japan.

SUPPLEMENT for January 19, 1924.

In addition to articles indexed on front page, note the following:

- 5 - Spinach acreage in Texas (filler).
- 32 - Detroit an Important Market, - by G. C. Bayley.
- 33 - Colorado Potatoes Advance Sharply, - by J. D. Snow.
- 34, 35, 36 - Annual Review and Price and Shipment Table for 1923;
this is an especially valuable article and table for reference purposes, showing the trend of the markets during 1923.
- 37 - California Orange Crop Reduced by Freeze (filler).

Paper for January 26, 1924.

- 53 - Special paragraph on onions in weekly review.
- 54 - 1923 business of cooperative associations (filler).
- 55 - Idaho Farmers Diversifying Crops, - by A. E. Prugh.
Potato Situation in Maine, - by H. S. Stiles.
Shipping-point inspection service in Texas (filler).
- 61 - Less Seed Potatoes Certified in Oregon (filler).
- 64 - South African Peaches Popular in London.
New Zealand Apples for South America.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued from Page 54)

R. H. Lamb has been transferred from Plant City to Palmetto, Fla., to assist with inspections in that district. S. W. Russell has taken Mr. Lamb's place at Plant City.

At the Manatee County Fair, to be held at Bradentown, Fla., February 11-16, O. G. Strauss and A. E. Mercker have been invited to act as judges of the fruit and vegetable exhibits.

Miss Marie Dolan, formerly of Muncie, Ind., has been employed as typist in the Orlando office. Most of her time will be given to assisting Mr. Evers with market news reports.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. RADIO MARKET NEWS IN SOUTH TEXAS.

Effective Monday, January 21, the Austin office began sending radio telegraphic reports on spinach to station WUH, the Army station at Fort McIntosh, Laredo, for distribution to growers and shippers in that vicinity. Cooperation of the War Dept. in this work is a new departure, and will greatly facilitate the dissemination of market news in Texas. Permission to use this Army radio station was secured partly through the efforts of Bureau and Division representatives in Washington. The spinach reports are now being sent daily to station WUH and to station WFO, the latter at Houston, from WCM, the broadcasting station at Austin. If you will study a map of Texas, you will observe that Houston is about 150 miles almost due east of Austin and Laredo is about 225 miles southwest of Austin.

In a recent letter from J. Austen Hunter, of the Austin office, he says: "We are very much delighted here with the successful termination of negotiations with the War Dept. for use of Fort McIntosh, Laredo, for the handling of spinach market news. We go across regularly now at 9:15 each morning and at 2 o'clock each afternoon, and have never missed a day, working both WUH at Laredo and WFO at Houston, the latter re-broadcasting the information and delivering it to the local papers which print it regularly. These papers are especially equipped to render service to the Lower Rio Grande Valley. I feel that the securing of permission from the War Dept. for the use of WUH is one of the biggest steps in the advancement of our market news program that could be conceived. ***

"Was also successful in working a nice little deal with the mail service of the Associated Press, whereby they furnish weekly 150 sheets of paper whereon to print the weekly summary, with the usual page of brief market stories, which they will mail out to the 75 newspapers on their regular list at their own expense. That will give me the opportunity of covering nearly 100 newspapers weekly on this summary without expense to this office."

Information from T. W. McBride, State Marketing Agent, emphasizes these additional points in the Texas news service: "Eight newspapers of the State, whose circulation completely covers producing sections and the brokerage trade of the larger cities of Texas, print a telegraphic summary of the spinach market daily. Five radio stations, one each at Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio and Austin, broadcast this information by voice, and around 150 copies are mailed daily. *** F.o.b. information from Laredo has been available daily to your market offices, - both from Austin and Laredo, the latter point furnishing the copy by radio to the University Station through a local amateur's cooperation. *** I understand, also, that very extensive plans have been laid for the development of the receiving and disseminating work at San Benito, Harlingen and other Valley points, when cabbage shall be started around February first."

BE SURE TO ADVISE WASHINGTON, IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR DIVISION LETTER
REGULARLY.

2b. SPINACH SITUATION IN SOUTH TEXAS.

A letter of January 26, from Mr. Hunter, of the Austin office, describes the spinach situation around Austin and explains quotations received from the "upper counties," especially quotations at Asherton:-

"The recent low temperature of 17 degrees and the strong north wind of last Sunday apparently did considerably less damage to spinach here than was at first believed, for the warm rain and cloudy skies immediately following seem to have very generally put life back into the leaves and they are beginning to show a very healthy color under our present bright sky. The spinach does not look healthy after it has run through the washing vat, however, and I doubt seriously if carrying quality is all that could be desired. The freeze of January 7th is very apparent in the stock going forward and some of the fields, especially those on the north bank of the river, which are mostly of the Bloomsdale or Savoy variety, are a terrible mess of dead leaves with a small green, untouched bud. Under normal conditions the cutting of such spinach would not be thought of, as the expense of stripping would be excessive and it would be necessary to cut over too large an area to the car; but, with prices like they are, this is to be attempted and if markets maintain their present level you may expect an average for the coming week of about a car a day, with possibly two cars Monday and two Tuesday. After that movement very little may be anticipated prior to the 10th of February, when the February plantings will be available, and, if the deal weathers the usual freeze of the first few days of that month, some very good quality stock may be expected in steadily increasing volume. The lateness of the freeze will have an influence in running the deal late this year, for there will probably be considerable replanting, and there is a very appreciable acreage at present just pushing up through the ground that will not be available before April. It is altogether possible that the first of May will see spinach rolling from Austin, unless an early spring favors home gardens in the North. Local operators believe the freeze is playing into their hands in that the tremendous demand throughout South Texas is cutting tonnage very short because of cutting such small and half-grown spinach, and, unless there are late plantings there (which is not probable), that section will be out of the deal about the time Austin gets heaviest.

"Regarding the Asherton quotations, you will notice a 'wagonloads of bushels delivered icing platforms' term, which doubtless is a new phrase, that might be worth coding. The term is perhaps more applicable to upper county loading points than any other section of the State, for their method of handling spinach is so much less complicated than elsewhere that they can dispose of less-than-carload lots very easily. It is usually on a semi-contract basis, however. When they cut spinach in the upper counties, strip the dead leaves off, and place in the basket, the entire packing operation is complete except for the icing, which is performed at the car door by the simple process of lifting up half the bushel basket of spinach, dumping in a scoopful of ice and returning the spinach to place, and topping. The item of crushed ice for the baskets and block ice for the bunkers is not an expense of the grower selling on this basis, as it is in the case of 'carloads f.o.b. cash track to growers' or 'carloads f.o.b. on wire orders and usual terms.' Consequently, the present price of 80-90¢ which was contracted for several days ago for this week's delivery, I understand, is an unusually good cash-to-grower quotation. I thought this might be of interest to you in the event the terms I employed were not quite so clear as might be desired."

3b. MARKET REPORTS PROVE OF VALUE.

In reply to a recent inquiry, the Rochester office has been advised by a prominent potato grower in New York State that the market reports are proving of real value. Part of the letter is quoted below:

"Have shipped four cars of potatoes to Scranton, Pa. By carefully watching the daily market reports, particularly those of prices and market conditions in shipping sections, and by occasionally getting the same from Harrisburg or other radio stations, I have sold the four cars at a net average of $88\frac{1}{2}\phi$ per bushel, in bulk, track here. I have succeeded in catching a rising market with each car, and have missed each of the declines between."

4b. WIDE DEMAND FOR MARKET REPORTS FOR CLAIM ADJUSTMENTS.

During 1923, about 1,200 requests for copies of mimeographed market reports were received by the Washington office.

90% of this number were for claim adjustments.

42 railroads in 28 States, from California to Massachusetts, requested prices.

9,580 bulletins were mailed in response.

158 replies for prices were taken from mail reports and newspapers.

Information was sent on 28 commodities.

241 separate certifications were mailed.

\$278,000 was involved in 140 claims for which certifications of reports were made.

Approximately 100 requests for certification did not state amount involved.

Pennsylvania Railroad at Philadelphia received 113 certifications for claims totaling \$78,000.

5b. RADIO BROADCASTS FROM ROCHESTER.

A recent letter from C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, tells of the extent of radio and newspaper work in that section:

"We have just been circularizing our mailing list and on the forms which were sent out we asked subscribers to state whether they heard our radio reports or read our newspaper reports. The result has been rather surprising. Evidently about one farmer and shipper in every four has a radio set and copies part of our program from WHAM. Apparently everyone in Rochester territory sees our newspaper reports and reads them occasionally."

6b. CROP REPORT FOR TEXAS.

With this Division Letter, all Market News men will receive a copy of the mimeographed release, dated January 26, covering the truck crop situation in Texas. The offices of the News Service have been added to Crop Estimates' mailing list to receive these reports regularly. The periodical mimeographed releases are all the more important in view of the fact that crop news in "Crops and Markets" will be published only in the Monthly Supplements.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery*	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Feb. 15 Mar. 1 Jan. 12*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples#	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes#	Sept. 19	Feb. 15
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions#*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.

**State Dept. cooperating.

Tri-weekly,

R. M. Peterson)

G. A. DeHaven)

J. D. Evers) to Florida for

R. H. Lamb) inspection work.

S. W. Russell)

W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection
work.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. FLORIDA CELERY INSPECTIONS.

The following instructions by Mr. Bier to the shipping-point inspectors in Florida are of importance to receiving-point inspectors, as well. These paragraphs are copied from the Florida News Letter:

Celery is one of our heaviest inspection crops now, and men who are doing this work should realize that the success of the service is dependent upon the way they handle their work. Parties interested in the inspection not only want to know the grade but they are equally anxious to know about (1) Greenness of tops, (2) Crispness, (3) Blanching, (4) Green Hearts, (5) Heart Formation, and, (6) Length of Stalks.

(1) Tops green should always be stated, if so found.

(2) Stalks should be reported crisp, provided practically no pithy ones are noted. If pithiness is reported, a lot should be reported generally crisp or mostly crisp. A statement, such as stalks crisp, followed by 15% pithy, is manifestly untrue. The term tender in connection with the quality statement seems to give no additional information and it is suggested that it not be used.

(3) A statement of blanching is one of the most important on the celery certificate and should be made with care. Blanching should be reported for the lot as a whole by using the term "well blanched," "fairly well blanched," or "poorly blanched." In case of a very good lot, the term "exceptionally well blanched" may be used. If a load consists of distinct lots showing different blanching, it may be reported by using the range, such as "in most crates, stock well blanched; in a few, poorly blanched."

(4) In connection with the statement of blanching, a definite percentage of stalks having green hearts should be shown, provided an appreciable amount is present.

(5) Heart formation should be reported for the lot as a whole, using the terms "good," "fairly good," or "poor heart formation." The statement is of especial interest to all parties, when the stock is of French Strain.

(6) Length of stalk should be reported in inches, such as, "length of stalks 20 to 30, mostly 22-26 inches." Special care should be taken in reporting the length, when stalks are so short that "plating" or "shingling" is practiced. This statement should be handled under the "size" heading on the certificate.

2c. TOMATO SITUATION ON FLORIDA EAST COAST.

Damage to tomatoes in the Homestead section of Florida is described in a letter of January 23 from W. V. Stephens, located at that point:

"I was out in the country a while this morning and am inclined to believe that the rain has caused more damage than most shippers thought. The plants in the low spots have a yellowish appearance and those plants on the higher ground are not growing. This marl is just like a sponge; it soaks up the water and holds it. Most of the farmers are putting on fertilizer now and that may start the plants to growing; if it doesn't there will be a great many tomatoes too small to pack. I don't think the tomatoes in the new pickings will be as well filled out as they were. One advantage the crop has had is more or less cloudy weather since the rain and there is very little sunburn. It looks to me as though the reduction in tonnage will be brought about more by lack of size than by loss in acreage."

3c. VOLUME OF INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA, UP TO JAN. 15.

A recent report issued by Robert Bier, Federal Supervising Inspector in charge of the cooperative shipping-point service in Florida, shows that 1,428 cars were inspected from November 12, 1923, to January 15. Of that total, 845 inspections were made prior to January 1 and 583 since that date.

Total Inspections by Sections and by Periods.

Section & Period	Cab- bage	Cel- ery	Cit- rus	Cucum- bers	Grape- fruit	Let- tuce	Mxd. Vegs.	Or- anges	Pep- pers	Ro- maine	Tanger- ines	Toma- toes
<u>AUBURNDALE:</u>												
Up to 1/1			17		25			44			7	
Since 1/1					21			12			7	
<u>CLEARWATER:</u>												
Up to 1/1			15		47			42			4	
Since 1/1			8		48			4			4	
<u>FORT MYERS:</u>												
Up to 1/1				1			7		18			
Since 1/1			3		22		4	15	14		2	1
<u>GARFIELD:</u>												
Up to 1/1												
Since 1/1			2		14			14				
<u>HOMESTEAD:</u>												
Up to 1/1												
Since 1/1												9
<u>LAKELAND:</u>												
Up to 1/1			2		10			6			1	
Since 1/1												
<u>ORLANDO:</u>												
Up to 1/1			4		24			57				
Since 1/1	4	1	4		18	8	3	33			10	
<u>PALMETTO:</u>												
Up to 1/1	1	6	15		48	33	23	48	4	1	3	
Since 1/1	8	64			15	82	31		2	2		
<u>PLANT CITY:</u>												
Up to 1/1												
Since 1/1			4					20				
<u>SANFORD:</u>												
Up to 1/1						328	4					
Since 1/1		64				5	1					
TOTAL:	13	135	74	1	292	456	73	295	38	3	38	10

Relative Rank of Sections:

Sanford.....	402	Fort Myers.....	87
Palmetto.....	386	Garfield.....	30
Clearwater.....	172	Plant City.....	24
Orlando.....	166	Lakeland.....	19
Auburndale.....	133	Homestead.....	9

4c. SPECIAL MATERIAL SENT INSPECTORS:

Tentative U. S. Grades for Watermelons, and a circular letter asking for constructive criticisms.

Memorandum No. 57, regarding the interpretation of the Tentative U. S. Grades for Florida Citrus Fruits.

Special crop reports on truck crops in Florida, South Carolina and Texas, dated Jan. 18, and a report on Texas crops, dated Jan. 26,

F. G. ROBB, Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor with headquarters in Chicago, will come to Washington early next week, and spend about a month here, revising the Inspector's Handbook. Mr. Butner returned to Chicago from his southern trip today.

W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector of the Eastern District, also will be in Washington a few days next week, for conference regarding proposed revisions of the Handbook.

About two weeks ago, Mr. Samson spent a day at Rochester, N. Y., where he discussed the recommended barreled-apple grades before a meeting of the New York State Horticultural Society.

Wm. E. Lewis returned to Washington on Wednesday, having left Mercedes, Texas, on Sunday evening. He reports that J. Harold Hoover and his local inspectors have handled about 250 carloads to date, consisting mostly of cabbage, carrots and beets.

United States grades for cabbage, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and peaches were adopted by Alabama at a recent meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. Grades for strawberries also were tentatively adopted as the standard for that State, and shippers have requested inspection of strawberries. The schedule of fees is as follows: \$5.00 for cars of one commodity; \$7.50 for mixed cars of three commodities; \$10.00 for mixed cars of more than three products.

J. R. Duncan, who has been substituting for the Livestock reporter in San Francisco the past few weeks, is expected to return to his headquarters at Salt Lake City by February 10.

Leaving Washington this Saturday, H. A. Spilman will go to St. Louis, points in Mississippi, and Jacksonville, Fla., in the interest of package standardization. He expects to be absent one week. On his return from Hartford, Conn., Mr. Spilman reported that the Union Agricultural Meeting of Connecticut organizations passed a resolution recommending the passage of the standard basket bill now before Congress.

Fred W. Meyer has been appointed as a clerk-typist in the Cincinnati office of the Market News Service.

Miss Eleanor Miller, who has been on the temporary clerical force in Mr. Patton's section, leaves our service on February 5.

After about three months' absence on account of illness, Miss Mary B. Hall has returned to duty, and is again engaged in tabulating shipment report for the proposed bulletin on fruit and vegetable shipments by stations.

Herbert Graff has gone from New York to Boston, where he is substituting for W. F. Plummer, Navy Inspector. Mr. Plummer is quarantined as a result of scarlet fever in his home.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The Official Record for January 23 contains a directory of U.S.D.A. Clubs in various cities. Among the secretaries of these organizations are the following of our own men: Buffalo, Mr. Raplee; Kansas City, Mr. Lunbard; and St. Louis, Mr. Jones. E. P. Lemott, joint head clerk in Chicago, is secretary of the Chicago Club.

The Wisconsin Division of Markets plans to move its market news headquarters and broadcasting station from Waupaca to Stevens Point about February 15. Stevens Point is on the same railroad line, about 35 miles west of Waupaca. It is likely that our Waupaca field station will be moved to its former office quarters in the Court House. If it is decided to remove the Waupaca drop of the leased wire, communication with Stevens Point will be by radio.

A. E. Mercker was one of the three judges at the Sarasota County Fair, held at Sarasota, Fla., on January 22. Citrus fruits, vegetables, hay, grains, honey, canned fruits and vegetables, and preserves were the products judged.

Through the instrumentality of W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector at Homestead, Fla., and the Chamber of Commerce in that town, market reports on tomatoes are being relayed from Jacksonville and published in a local daily newspaper. An article in the Homestead "Enterprise" commended the Government/^{men}as "fast workers."

In the Lakeland section of Florida, O. G. Strauss finds that about 40% of the citrus fruit crop has already been moved.

Jack Dempsey and W. V. Stephens are being confused in Florida, according to reports printed in a local newspaper received from that State. The item goes on to say that the Homestead Hotel has frequent inquiries over the telephone as to whether Jack Dempsey is stopping there. The answer has had to be given: "No, it is W. V. Stephens, newly-arrived Government inspector of fruits and vegetables." The article, which is eight inches long, then explains the scope and purpose of the shipping-point inspection work being conducted in Florida, emphasizing that it is not a police measure but is intended as^aprotection and aid to growers and shippers.

Attention is called to the fact that A. E. Mercker, formerly in charge of shipping-point inspections at Palmetto, is now located at the Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, Fla., where he will be in charge of the training of new inspectors. Nathaniel Farnworth is now Supervising Inspector at Palmetto. He will receive mail at P.O. Box 238.

E. E. Conklin's headquarters in Florida have been made permanently at Orlando, - the Angebilt Hotel. He is in charge of standardization work.

R.M. Peterson's local address in Leesburg, Fla., is First National Bank. F. E. Hooper's address at Fort Myers is 136 Royal Palm Avenue.

(Concluded on Page 46)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 6
February 7, 1924.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. PORTLAND WORK DEVELOPING.

The semi-annual report of the Portland office, shows interesting development in the service rendered in that section since its beginning on July 5. Lettuce was already moving from the Northwest, when our office was opened, and onions were about ready to start from the Walla Walla section, with large pear and prune crops coming on. Requests for market information were received from a wide territory, and by the end of July the mailing list included 400 names. In addition to a miscellaneous bulletin on the local market, shipment reports and brief market reports were issued on onions, lettuce, peaches, pears, plums and prunes, and cantaloupes. In September, grape f.o.b. reports were added at the request of grape interests in that section and a daily wire on lettuce was started to a Boise, Idaho, newspaper. Apple and potato reports also were begun. The mailing list reached its maximum of 1,225 names during the potato season. Market information has been distributed over the States of Oregon, Washington, northern and southwestern Idaho. About 137,625 envelopes containing market reports have been mailed during these six months.

Daily information is gathered on butter and egg prices in Portland, and these reports are wired to San Francisco, the Portland office receiving in return a summary of the San Francisco, New York and Chicago dairy markets, which is released to the local trade.

Portland is also an Inspection office and, in addition to receiving-point work, Mr. Ringer supervises the cooperative potato inspections for Oregon. At present eleven inspectors are in the field. Their notes are sent to our office where the certificates are typed. Potato grading demonstrations have been given at various shipping points. In addition to straight Federal inspection of 104 cars and 6 small lots handled by Mr. Ringer personally since the opening of the Portland office, 339 cooperative inspections of potatoes have been made.

2a. COLORADO LETTUCE DEAL.

From August 6 to October 15, 1923, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, rendered a special market news service on lettuce for the benefit of Colorado growers and shippers. The reports were issued as a part of his regular fruit and vegetable reports, and therefore went to the entire mailing list of 950 names. During the period that this special service was in operation, about 1,120 carloads of lettuce were shipped from the State. Total shipments for the entire season were 1,420 cars. Destination and diversion reports show that Colorado lettuce went to at least 72 towns and cities in 26 States and the District of Columbia. Chicago was the heaviest consumer, with Kansas City and St. Louis next in importance. Many shipments went to towns and smaller cities

3a. KEEP A CARD INDEX.

A card index, in which 4" by 6" cards are used, will be found a valuable means of reference in any office, which has frequent need of statistics and special material in "Crops and Markets." Such an index is maintained in Washington, and has been found invaluable, principally because all material on one product is listed on the card (or cards) for that product. We were in error in stating in the Division Letter for January 10, pages 11 and 12, that a complete monthly index would be printed in "Crops and Markets" itself. Such an index will appear for the Monthly Supplements only, similar to the one on front page of Monthly Supplement dated January 19. Every office very shortly should receive this Monthly Supplement, a most valuable issue of 40 pages.

A complete card index - if your office wishes to keep such a means of reference - should be based on products, in alphabetical order. Below is a copy of the most recent card under Potatoes in the Washington file:

<u>POTATOES:</u>		Card No. 25
Potato Prices Advance (review).....	1/5/24, p. 6	
Chicago a Great Potato Center (with chart).....	" p. 8	
California Seed-Potato Certification, 1923.....	" p. 13	
Chicago Potato Market Advances.....	1/12/24, p. 23	
Nebraska Seed Potatoes.....	1/19/24, p. 38	
Per-capita Production, Grades and Shipments.....	Jan. Sup. p. 8&9	
Certified Seed Production Doubled (with tables).....	" " p. 9	
Acreage in Florida, 1922-24.....	" " p. 17	
Acreage in Lower Rio Grande Valley, 1922-24.....	" " p. 17	
Colorado Potatoes Advance Sharply.....	" " p. 33	
Annual Review, with price table.....	" " p. 35&36	
Percentage of Potato Shipments (chart).....	" " p. 36	
Idaho Potato Farmers Diversifying Crops.....	1/26/24, p. 55	
Potato Situation in Maine.....	" p. 55	
Less Seed Potatoes Certified in Oregon (filler).....	" p. 61	
Potato Markets Irregular (review).....	2/2/24, p. 70	

4a. "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 2:

Page 70 - Special paragraph on Potatoes in weekly review.

71 - Cooperative Fruit Sales during 1922.

- Large Supplies Required by "Leviathan."

72 - Heavy Arrivals in Chicago, - by W. H. Hall.

- Shipping-Point Inspections in Utah.

- Mexican Limes in San Francisco, - by C. J. Hansen.

- Imperial Valley Lettuce Shipments Curtailed, - by C. E. Schultz.

- California Apple Holdings, - by C. J. Hansen.

77 - Market News Service in Texas.

80 - Exports from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1922 and 1923, of fresh and dried Apples; Prunes, Apricots and Raisins.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. NEWS FROM DENVER.

The following excerpt from a recent letter from John D. Snow may be of interest to other Market News men:

"The newspapers, Associated Press, Western Union C.N.D. and growers and shippers have all come to life and suddenly decided that we have something for them, and it does me good to see the work appreciated. The field here is just scratched and Colorado is going to be some agricultural State before long. The mixed vegetable industry is booming, and the interest in dry beans continues to call for a market news service.

"The trade in Denver does not pull together any too well but has adopted our service wholeheartedly and is cooperating in fine shape.

"I have been reading with interest The Packer's sparring with Rubinow and Sapiro on their methods of organizing the Cooperative Potato Associations and have difficulty in avoiding heated arguments on the subject with local shippers.

"The Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange is apparently doing as well as can be expected, and I cannot see that it is warranting adverse criticism or setting the world on fire. When shipments were heavy, the Exchange loaded light and, on the other hand, Weyl-Zuckerman is quoting under the independents now that the demand is fairly good. So there is something to be said on both sides."

2b. CALIFORNIA LETTUCE AND THE ALIEN LAND LAW.

C. E. Schultz advises that there was a general agreement among lettuce shippers in Imperial Valley to stop shipments for some time, in the hope of better market prices, but he felt that the "agreement" would not be effective in actual practice. Mr. Schultz adds: "Neither shippers nor growers are making money on this deal to date, and most of them claim losses."

Both the Imperial Valley Press and The Brawley News give front-page space to the daily market reports on lettuce.

The following statement regarding the Alien Land Law, recently declared constitutional by the United States Supreme Court, has been issued by District Attorney Utley through Harry W. Horton, Chief Deputy:

"Leases, cropping contracts and all other contracts between aliens, which are not straight contracts of hire, for a definite compensation for the work to be done, are invalid, regardless of whether they were made before or after the passage of the 1923 amendment. The only manner in which an alien can work upon farm land is when he is hired on a definite compensation, and bonuses or percentage ^{of crops or percentage} to be determined by the success of the crop are not to be allowed. Those crops actually in the ground may now be harvested but no more crops may be planted. After lettuce crops are harvested, cantaloupes may not be planted this year. Cotton crops may not be volunteered for another year. Strawberry crops or grape crops which will mature between now and July may be harvested, but none later."

3b. FLORIDA CELERY SITUATION.

Writing under date of January 31, F. H. Scruggs, in charge of the Sanford field station, says the following about Florida celery:

"Approximately 500 cars of washed-precooled stock will go out from Sanford. Considerable quantities of celery washed in iced water while in wire-bound crates will be shipped by the Florida Vegetable Corporation. I think that it should be quoted only when selling low or high in the terminal markets, and then separately. This method would show the advantage or disadvantage, in comparison with the stock in the rough. I expect to quote the precooled stock next week, if any considerable amounts are sold.

"From data now available, it looks as if the total Florida celery output will exceed that of last season when 6,398 cars were shipped, approximately 30% being from the Manatee section and 70% from Sanford section. This season's acreage is divided between the two sections in about the same ratio and a movement of 4,800-5,000 cars is expected from Sanford, with 1,800-2,000 from Manatee section. A few cars are coming from the Daytona section. Last year the monthly movement of celery was as follows: Jan. 567 cars; Feb. 1,376; Mar. 2,281; Apr. 1,674; May 389, and June 10 cars. The season is at least two weeks ahead of the usual schedule and January shipments amount to nearly 1,300 cars, approximately 70% being from Sanford section. The April movement likely will be lighter than last year. Heavy shipments probably will come between February 10 and March 20.

"With regard to the recent farmers' meetings: The first one was an agitation to fix prices weekly. This group comprised members of all the associations and independents and has been called 'The Farmers Protective Association.' The second meeting was devoted to quieting the agitation and asking for a signed pledge, in resolution form, that each grower would hold his celery as long as possible, in order that the stock be well blanched, hoping at the same time that the markets would become less glutted. The third meeting was devoted principally to advocating extensive advertising of Florida celery or all celery, that the consumption might be increased.

"With reference to the shippers' meeting the past Monday night: This gathering of the five shipping organizations and the three banks decided that no more cutting would be done this week except to fill cars already ordered and on track. All of these cars were completed this Thursday, Jan. 31. Only two cars went out today. The banks expect to exert a controlling influence over the growers not in any of the five associations. Action to delay shipments was caused principally to allow the stock to become well-blanching, as the recent cool spells have hindered blanching, and to give the markets an opportunity to clean up some of the California and Florida stock on track and part of the storage supplies."

4b. CONSOLIDATED REPORTS OF SHIPMENTS.

In the Division Letter for June 7, 1923, a partial list was published of the railroads, with which F. M. Patton had arranged for consolidated reports of shipments. Since that time, similar arrangements have been made with 32 additional roads, the total at present being 49. Only a few of the principal lines in the Middle West and South West have yet to agree to this new system of telegraphic reports, whereby individual division superintendents send their daily reports to general superintendents or other general officials, who in turn consolidate the data and send a single wire to Washington. Below is a

complete list of the roads on which the new system is now effective, and figures showing the number of reporters under the old and the new plan. The decrease in number of reporters is 86%.

<u>Name of Railroad</u>	<u>Number of Reporters</u>	
	<u>Old Plan</u>	<u>New Plan</u>
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.....	25	4
Atlantic Coast Line.....	12	3
Bangor & Aroostook.....	2	1
Baltimore & Ohio.....	14	1
Boston & Maine.....	8	1
Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh.....	2	1
Central of Georgia.....	5	1
Central R. R. of New Jersey.....	2	1
Chesapeake & Ohio.....	9	1
Chicago & Alton.....	2	1
Chicago & Eastern Illinois.....	4	1
Chicago & North Western.....	17	1
Chicago, Burlington & Quincy.....	19	2
Chicago Great Western.....	5	1
Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.....	31	2
Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha.....	4	1
Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis.....	12	1
Delaware & Hudson.....	4	1
Delaware, Lackawanna & Western.....	5	1
Denver & Rio Grande Western.....	6	1
Erie.....	12	3
Florida East Coast.....	3	1
Atlanta & West Point R. R.; Georgia R. R.....	2	1
Great Northern.....	11	1
Illinois Central.....	16	1
International Great Northern.....	2	1
Kansas City Southern.....	2	1
Lehigh Valley.....	7	1
Louisville & Nashville.....	16	1
Maine Central.....	3	1
Michigan Central.....	5	1
Minneapolis, St. Paul & Saulte Ste. Marie.....	7	1
Missouri, Kansas & Texas.....	6	1
Missouri Pacific.....	17	1
Mobile & Ohio.....	4	1
New York Central.....	20	2
New York, Chicago & St. Louis.....	9	1
New York, New Haven & Hartford.....	10	1
Norfolk & Western.....	5	1
Norfolk Southern.....	3	1
Northern Pacific.....	12	1
Oregon Short Line.....	4	1
Pennsylvania.....	43	4
Pere Marquette.....	4	1
Philadelphia & Reading.....	7	1
St. Louis-San Francisco.....	8	1
Seaboard Air Line.....	7	1
Southern.....	12	1
Total -..	445	61

5b. PHILADELPHIA RADIO REPORTS EFFECTIVE.

E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, recently issued on a separate sheet the new broadcasting schedule for market reports in that city. The hours and broadcasting stations are:

10:15 A.M. Station WFI, Strawbridge and Clothier, daily.

1:50 P.M. Station WFI, Strawbridge and Clothier, daily
except Saturday.

6:45 P.M. Station WIP, Gimbel Brothers, daily.

At the bottom of the sheet, he requests that all those using this service should send a card or letter to the broadcasting stations, telling how they receive the reports and expressing their appreciation for the service rendered by the radio stations.

The evening reports have created very gratifying comment from the trade. One dealer told Mr. Biddle that, on hearing the New York market report (included in the form prepared by Philadelphia office), he had ordered a car of celery unloaded, although he had previously decided to hold it, and he was pleased with the sale he made. Mr. Biddle's letter of February 6 continues:-

"Referring to your inquiry regarding our evening radio report, I am almost overcome by all kinds of reaction, some favorable and some unfavorable.

"One thing is sure and that is that this report is getting across in great shape and that the consuming buyer is holding daily sessions with the retail dealer, which leaves him in no uncertain frame of mind when he tries to explain the wide margin between the wholesale prices and those he is charging. Retail dealers are naturally complaining to the jobbers.

"Many of the receivers have complimented me on the service, especially on the giving of the New York market and the Potomac Yards report. In fact, one receiver at the last meeting of the Boosters' Club proposed that they send a letter of commendation to both Gimbel Brothers and myself, but because of opposition on the part of some of the trade, who had been hearing from their retail trade, the matter was held over for the time being.

"I have heard indirectly that the Philadelphia Vegetable Growers' Association, at a meeting last night, went on record as considering this as one of the best services the Bureau ever started.

"Some of the trade are taking a hostile attitude, one dealer going so far as to say he would not give me any prices, but when I told him I had already been quoted prices 25¢ higher than I knew he was selling for, he said he reckoned he had best tell me his price for his protection with the shipper.

"So it goes merrily along with everybody talking radio. This after almost two years of radio reports broadcasted during daylight hours with hardly any reaction shows when the news gets across.

"I had almost forgotten to mention that reports from the country are slow coming in, but I have been told that the country stores which have large receiving sets installed are drawing crowds every night and the report is creating lots of interest."

6b. SUMMARY OF NEW JERSEY EARLY POTATO SEASON, 1923.

An excellent summary of the 1923 early potato season in New Jersey has just been released by Mr. Biddle. Copies were received in Washington during the past week. This summary includes 16 mimeographed pages. • E. W. STILLWELL.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. INSPECTION WORK IN RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

A letter of February 1 from J. Harold Hoover, at Mercedes, Texas, gives the following information regarding conditions in that section:

"The work has been very light this week on account of a slow rain which began falling on Sunday and continued until Wednesday, when two and one-half inches of rain fell during the afternoon and evening. On Thursday it cleared and indications now point to some nice weather. However, the fields are still very wet and only a few crews are working. The movement should be heavy again the first of next week. Inspection work may be started at a few new points next week.

"The heavy rain apparently did very little damage to the growing crops, but some of the shippers had several cars of beets and carrots in baskets in the fields when the rain came and they were unable to get into these fields with trucks for a day or two, so that the hot sun did considerable damage to this stock. We are finding some cars of carrots that show effects of blight on the stems and are throwing these cars out of grade. Some fields are now so bad that they will be let along until the present tops die off and new ones grow on. This takes about three weeks, and I am told that the quality of the carrots is still good after going through this process. Beets and cabbage are doing fine. The price of cabbage has gone back to \$20.00 per ton in the last few days. The high prices that prevailed a week ago were due to a fight among the shippers in the Valley, and there never was a time when it was actually worth \$50.00 per ton."

2c. COOPERATIVE INSPECTIONS IN COLORADO.

The Colorado Inspection Service has been sending a Weekly News Letter, in typewritten form, to the various supervising inspectors throughout the State since October, 1923. The following items are from the issue for Feb. 1:-

Neal D. Sanborn, of the Monte Vista section, recently wrote: "Weather conditions have improved this past week, but shipments have increased but very little, due to rather weak market conditions. It is estimated that there are from 1,000 to 1,200 carlots of potatoes still in the San Luis Valley. The bulk of these are expected to be shipped during the months of February and March, depending somewhat, however, on the price and strength of the market."

E. F. McKune has been absent from his desk in Denver the past week. He is visiting the important onion districts of the Western Slope in an effort to establish some revised onion grades for the coming season. The latter part of this month, Mr. McKune will speak at potato conferences in the San Luis Valley.

A representative of one of the largest shippers on the Western Slope was a recent visitor to the Denver office and spoke very highly of the efficient work of the Colorado Inspection Service. There is a very friendly feeling in that district for the Service.

During the week ending January 27, inspections throughout the State amounted to 317 cars. Total inspections this season in the several districts are as follows: Monte Vista district, 2,766 cars; Delta, 2,245; Grand Junction, 1,262; Eagle, 761; Greeley, 335, and Denver district 281 cars; grand total, 7,650 cars.

3c. POTATO PROSPECTS IN FLORIDA.

In a letter of February 3, F. E. Hooper describes conditions around Fort Myers, Fla.:

"Potatoes are not going to start in volume before March 1st. The cold weather and rain of the last month have set the spring pepper crop back quite a bit. Many of the farmers have already ploughed up their peppers, being discouraged with the small returns netted. In place of peppers, they have planted beans, squash and cucumbers. Potatoes are doing nicely in some places, but in others, especially in the pond bottoms, the rain has caused the spuds to rot in the ground."

Recent reports from Mr. Marks, Truck Crop Specialist, indicate the planting of about 28,000 acres of potatoes in Florida, which is about the same as the area two years ago. Early movement from the southern part of the State should begin the latter part of February and continue through March and April. Movement from the Hastings section should start about the middle of April.

4c. FLORIDA EAST COAST TOMATO SHIPPERS.

Below is given a list of the Florida East Coast tomato shippers who are using the Federal-State Shipping Point Inspection Service. Their brands and shipping points also are given:

<u>SHIPPER</u>	<u>BRAND</u>	<u>SHIPPING-POINT</u>
Florida East Growers' Assn., Inc.	"Homestead"	Homestead
Frank A. Roskey	"Rose Brand"	"
(Not Inspected)	"Tiger Brand"	"
Chase & Co.	"Sunniland"	"
Hardee & Gentile	"Liberty Bell"	"
	"Boston Terrier"	"
Buffalo Vegetable Marketing Co.	"Dades Delight"	Naranja
	"Buffalo Brand"	Rockdale
Chase & Co.	"Spade Brand"	Perrine
C.A. Williams & Sons	"High Tide"	Modello
R.C. Applegate	"Tiger Brand"	Princeton
	"Wm. Penn Brand"	"
R. P. Kerr	"Kerr"	Perrine

5c. INTERNATIONAL APPLE SHIPPERS GRADE PAMPHLET.

A copy of the International Apple Shippers Grade pamphlet has been sent to each of our regular Inspectors. This should prove of great convenience to all, for it gives State and Federal grades in a very convenient arrangement.

Each Inspector is asked to take particular care of the copy which he has received. These pamphlets cost us 70¢ apiece and our supply is limited.

A few of the most recently issued tentative grades are not included in this book, but it is believed that all Inspectors have received copies of these.

6c. CONTROL OF STEM-END ROT IN CITRUS FRUIT.

Mr. J. R. Winston, Pathologist at the Citrus Experiment Station, Orlando, calls attention to the fact that the seedling stock is now becoming dead ripe and it will not be long before dryness will be especially noticeable. Such stock will also show Stem-End Rot.

Disbuttoning practically eliminates Stem-End Rot infection. This is accomplished by gassing at a temperature of 80° to 85° and a humidity of 85° to 90°. The operation takes about 48 hours. The gassing process causes a corky layer to form under the button, in this way closing the avenue for infection. Gassing does about the same thing for citrus as treating stems does for watermelons. So far as is known, the disbuttoning process does not affect the quality of the fruit. Grapefruit is more easily disbuttoned than oranges, and the gas does not need to be so strong.

In this connection, it is of interest to note that our Inspectors in Philadelphia, New York and Boston are examining experimental shipments of gassed and ungassed fruit on arrival in terminal markets, to determine the relation of gassing and disbuttoning to Stem-End Rot.

7c. REVISION OF THE HANDBOOK.

Work is now under way on the revision of the receiving-point Handbook. All Inspectors are invited to send in suggestions as to ways in which this Handbook can be made more useful to our men. Suggestions should be submitted during the next ten days.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman has been invited to attend the annual convention of the Melon Distributors' Association, to be held at Tifton, Ga., February 29 and March 1. If he can arrange to be present, Mr. Sherman probably will give an address on the shipping-point inspection service and its relation to f.o.b. auctions. Either the week before this convention or the week following, Mr. Sherman hopes to visit the various inspection offices throughout Florida.

W. C. Hackleman, of New York, reached the Washington office this morning. He will be here a few days, conferring with Messrs. Robb and Butner regarding proposed changes in the Inspector's Handbook. The latter part of last week, Mr. Hackleman visited the Buffalo, N. Y., and Wilkes-Barre, Pa., offices of the Inspection Service.

Severe storms throughout the Middle West early this week disrupted the leased wire service to several offices. On Monday the entire branch of the wire from Chicago to Minneapolis was out of operation. This condition still existed on Tuesday, and Chicago and Kansas City also could not be reached, and of course no offices west or southwest of Kansas City. Wednesday, service was resumed to Kansas City and to Texas and on the western circuit for about two hours. Thursday, the branch from Chicago to Minneapolis was still out of service, but Chicago itself was reached from Washington and it was expected that better service would be had from Kansas City west.

R. C. Lindstrom has been permanently transferred from Chicago to St. Louis, to assist with the inspections there. Work at St. Louis has increased to such an extent as to require another Inspector regularly. Please make this change on your new list of Inspectors and their addresses.

Shipping-point inspection of spinach in the vicinity of Asherton, Texas, has been started by C. D. Shirley, of the San Antonio office. Asherton is about 125 miles southwest of San Antonio, and while Mr. Shirley is on this special work the San Antonio office will be closed.

V. D. Callanan went from Boston to Worcester, Mass., to handle some inspections last Friday, and then proceeded to onion shipping points in the Connecticut Valley, where he is perfecting the arrangements for f.o.b. reports on onions.

H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, has gone on a 10 days' trip in the interest of this work. He first stopped at Morrice, Mich., to examine the records of wool dealers. On Monday, Mr. DeMott will attend the trial of the case against D. Davis & Son, wool dealers in Chicago, from whom the Government is seeking to collect excess profits on the 1918 clip. Subsequently, he will stop at Galesburg, Ill., and Greenville, Ky., to reaudit the accounts of dealers at those points. J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, also will be in Chicago on Monday to assist the U. S. Attorney in the D. Davis & Son trial. Mr. Bohannon may stop off at points in Michigan and Ohio to hold conferences regarding pending wool cases.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

H. T. Longino, who assisted C. R. Newton with inspections at New Orleans for a couple of weeks, returned to his headquarters at Houston, Texas, on Saturday.

The inspection of 1,100 barrels of apples in cold storage at Winchester, Va., required the presence of W. H. Steinbauer in that town on Wednesday. Later, Mr. Steinbauer went to Harrisonburg and Broadway, Va., to inspect other lots of apples. He is expected to return to Washington tonight.

Announcement has been received of the arrival of a son in the home of J. J. Gardner, Pittsburgh, about a week ago.

Effective February 9, the loop of the leased wire to Trenton, N. J., will be discontinued. Market reports from New York and Philadelphia will be obtained by the Trenton office by telephone. Please make note of this change on your map of the leased wire system.

J. Wm. Park will return to the pay roll of this Division on February 16. Since the fall of 1922, Mr. Park has been in the employ of the Seed Grain Loan Board at Grand Forks, N. Dak. Because of the shortage of funds, that work will have to be curtailed, if not entirely discontinued; hence Mr. Park's return to this Bureau. He issues his last market report on Red River Valley potatoes today, and will leave Grand Forks this Saturday, stopping off at his home at Fannettsburg, Pa., three days of next week. Arriving in Washington about the 15th, Mr. Park probably will be given investigational work under Mr. Samson's direction.

After several years' service on the clerical force in the Minneapolis office, Miss Lulu Nordby tendered her resignation, effective January 31.

The Orlando mailing list for market reports on citrus fruits now includes about 300 names. Mr. Evers, in charge of this work, advises that the new method of obtaining destination information is the best yet. Passing reports are secured from the Southern Railway at Jacksonville; from the S.A.L. at West Jacksonville, and from the A.C.L. at Waycross, Ga. A record of diversions is obtained from more northern points, such as Florence, Savannah and Everett, and additional reports of passings at Montgomery, Cincinnati and Potomac Yards.

C. W. Hauck has gone on a two weeks' trip to Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Chicago and other cities in which terminal auctions are in operation. He will confer with representatives of the auction companies, with a view to revising and completing the data originally secured by Admer D. Miller for a bulletin on Fruit and Vegetable Auctions.

News Items in the Division Letter for November 22, 1923, included a statement as to the present work of James P. Klein, formerly on the staff of the Market News Service. More recent word indicates that Mr. Klein not only teaches in but that he is Dean of the Vocational School at Marionville, Mo., a Government school for vocational training of wounded soldiers. Just now "Jimmy" has the mumps.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Hard rain and hail storms occurred a few days ago on the lower East Coast of Florida, according to a wire from W. V. Stephens, at Homestead. Heavy rains were experienced practically all over the State on February 4.

L. S. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau, visited the Orlando office on Monday, and during the course of the day made a trip to Winter Garden and Sanford. On Tuesday he went to Bradentown with A. E. Mercker, and on Wednesday made a trip to Lake County, accompanied by E. E. Conklin, Jr.

P. D. Rupert, of the Sanford office of the Inspection Service, has been selected to act as a judge at the Seminole County Fair, to be held at Geneva, Fla., in the near future.

All Market News men are being sent a copy of the first part of the mimeographed report on the recent Market News Conference in Washington; this covers 10 pages and includes addresses or remarks by Messrs. Kitchen, Callander, Hughes, George, Gilbert, Hunter and others.

Since January 28, W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office, is furnishing special CND (commercial news dispatch) reports to the Western Union Telegraph Co. in that city. His regular mailing list now includes more than 200 names; and the reports to newspapers and the trade are meeting with great favor.

Read the first and second pages of this week's B.A.E. News for a comprehensive statement of all the work of the F. & V. Division in Florida this season. It is a very complete report of the activities in that State.

The back page of both The B.A.E. News and State and Federal Marketing Activities this week contains a splendid line cut, showing the leased wire and radio system of the Bureau. It is map well worth posting in all offices. The only change required on this map next week is the discontinuance of leased wire connections at Trenton, N. J.

All employees in Washington who could be excused were permitted to quit work at 12:30 P.M., Wednesday, to witness Ex-President Woodrow Wilson's funeral procession and to hear the services broadcast from the National Cathedral, in the crypt of which Mr. Wilson's body was placed.

On page 5 of the revised list of Inspectors, Mr. Allewelt, of the California Standardization Service, requests that the designations of field men in that State be corrected as follows: K. R. Nutting, H. W. Peterson and C. E. Linwood should be designated as Inspector in Charge. C. H. Beasley's designation should be Supervising Inspector.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 7

February 14, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. EMPLOYEE SENTENCED FOR CONSPIRACY AND FALSE EXPENSE VOUCHERS.

Percy A. Matthews, formerly an auditor in the Domestic Wool Section, was sentenced by Justice Bailey of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, on February 8, to pay a fine of \$2,500. This is the culmination of indictments against him for the submission of false vouchers and for conspiracy with Leon & Ben Rosenbaum, wool dealers in Louisville, Ky., in June, 1920, to defraud the Government by reducing the excess wool profits due from such dealers. Evidence was obtained of the payment to him by the dealers of sums aggregating \$1,000. The Rosenbaums themselves pleaded "guilty" to the conspiracy charge in June, 1923, and were fined \$4,000 after complete payment of all excess found due.

The evidence obtained by this Division in connection with the indictment for the submission of false vouchers showed dishonesty in many small matters. Claims were submitted for small purchases, which never were made; for checking baggage, and for car fare, when these expenses were not incurred. False dates of arrival and departure also were given.

There are many opportunities for a man in the field to pad his account and this may be done occasionally without discovery, but we will retain no man in the service if we know him to be guilty of submitting false accounts. On the other hand, we shall, as long as possible, repose full confidence in the integrity and conscientious service of all our employees. We emphasize the outcome of the Matthews case for the benefit of any who may be misled by the oft-repeated assertion that the public service is full of graft and dishonesty and nobody is ever punished.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge.

2a. FORM F&V-1 SUPERSEDED BY FORM AE-70.

Form F&V-1 which has been used to cover transfers of property and transfers of responsibility for branch office inventorial property will no longer be used. Since the handling of the property records of all Divisions has been centralized in the Section of Property and Supplies, a new Form AE-70 has been provided to cover all such transfers. Instructions for the use of the new form are given at the bottom of the sheet.

The cost column need not be filled in. It has been suggested that an additional copy be made to be retained by the transferring officer until the receipted copy is returned. The receipted copies for the Washington office (Section of Property and Supplies) should be addressed to W. L. Evans, of our F. & V. Division.

When local purchases of inventorial articles are made by branch offices or individuals, the transaction should be covered by Form AE-70, the name of the vendor being shown as the transferring officer and the cost column also filled in. No copy, of course, should be given to the vendor.

All our men in branch offices and field stations should provide themselves with an adequate supply of Form AE-70 by submitting request on the usual supply requisition Form AE-99. Old Forms F&V-1 should be destroyed.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. APPLE SITUATION IN NORTHWEST.

Last week, George E. Prince, of the Spokane office, was on a checking trip in the Wenatchee Valley. He wrote in part as follows on February 8:-

"Have just attended a luncheon of the Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association, which was quite interesting. The committee sent to southern Idaho to study conditions resulting from the use of bulk and basket rates made their report, it being an unfavorable one, and the Association went on record as being opposed to bulk and basket rates in the Wenatchee district. There has been much talk for and against the use of bulk rates for the entire Northwest, and it was thought that all districts were in favor of same, with the exception of Hood River. It was due mainly to this committee's trip to southern Idaho that the tide was changed in the Wenatchee district.

"There will be a formal hearing in Yakima on March 1 before the I.C.C., at which time the matter of securing bulk and basket rates will be taken up. At present, it seems that a majority of the Yakima factors favor such rates.

"The committee appointed by the chairman of the recent Marketing Congress has selected Yakima as headquarters, and the bankers of the Northwest have put up a fund of \$15,000 to start the Exchange, or rather a fund for the committee to use. They will visit California to make a study of the plan of organization and marketing used by the California Fruit Growers Exchange, and their plans at present call for the inclusion of other deciduous fruits of the Northwest in addition to apples.

"Estimates by local factors as of February 1 on apple stocks remaining were as follows:

	<u>Cold storage</u>	<u>Common storage</u>
Wenatchee District ..	870 cars	1,640 cars
Yakima District.....	2,700 "	1,500 "

"They believe that on March 1 Wenatchee will have around 700-750 cars left in cold storage and 200-300 cars in common storage. There is a slight car shortage at present, but it is not expected to be at all serious.

"From information received, it seems advisable to continue market reports for at least two weeks longer than was the case last year, as there is considerable stock in eastern storage."

2b. DISTRIBUTION OF MARKET NEWS IN MAINE.

H. S. Stiles, in a letter of February 4 from Presque Isle, Me., tells of the special distribution of market news in that State:-

"You would be surprised to find how many farmers read our regular bulletins until the print nearly evaporates. For the newspapers, I think a weekly review an exceedingly good thing. It is unfortunate that the Associated Press does not serve this district, and that there are no daily papers. There are no radio broadcasting stations nearby, but a large number of receiving sets. Practically all farmers and dealers possessing these listen with interest to market news. The station at East Pittsburgh broadcasts such news and seems easily heard up here. However, my bulletin beats these radio reports by a number of hours.

"As I stated in a previous letter, the local paper has been receiving the equivalent of a weekly review for the past two months. On a trip to Houlton recently, among other things, I lined up the two weekly papers there. Today, by phone, the Fort Fairfield and Caribou weeklies agreed to publish such a review, which makes five papers at present. I have run up against the proposition that all papers do not publish the same day of the week, but I will overcome this by writing two weekly reviews, one on Monday and another on Wednesday or Thursday. In this manner, news will be fairly fresh. I also intend to write the Bangor Daily News and the Portland Press-Herald to see if they will publish such a review, and also to see if it can be arranged to send a daily wire. The Portland paper has a large space devoted to the potato market, and publishes our Minneapolis market in its entirety, although what good this does in Maine is more than I know. So my plan is to write two weekly reviews and get all the papers possible to publish them."

3b. NEW JERSEY PRODUCTS IN NEW YORK CITY.

A very complete nine-page summary of The New York City Market on New Jersey Fruits and Vegetables, Season of 1923, has just been released by the New York office, over signatures of O. D. Miller and S. W. Russell. It has been mailed to a list of 500 names, including mostly New Jersey growers and dealers on the New York market.

There is a separate price and market table for each of these leading products: Apples, peppers, eggplant, string beans, lima beans, sweet potatoes, spinach, cabbage, lettuce, onions, peaches, cantaloupes, peas, and asparagus. Comparative prices are given for the season of 1922, and all price data are on the basis of a weekly range. The front page of the summary contains a graph, showing the respective periods during which these products are sold in New York City. The graph gives the selling period for these additional New Jersey commodities: Tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, celery, strawberries and raspberries.

Any office having need of detailed information on New Jersey fruits and vegetables will find this summary very valuable. Copies can be obtained directly from O. D. Miller. Most of the work of compiling the data was done by S. W. Russell, before he went to Florida.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 9:

- Page 85 - Special paragraph on Sweet Potatoes in weekly review.
- 86 - Shipping-point inspection of Idaho fruits (filler).
- 87 - Texas Spinach Movement Approaching Peak; based partly on review of Texas spinach season by J. Austen Hunter.
 - Shipping-Point Inspections in Florida.
- 89 - Germany Purchasing Fruit from England.
- 96 - American Grapefruit in Manchester, England.
 - Exportable Surplus of Potatoes and Beet Sugar in Poland.
 - The Italian Sugar Situation (figures on sugar beets).

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery*	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 1 Mar. 1 Jan. 12*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples #	Sept. 17	Mar. 15
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions#*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

The following station has closed since the last Division Letter:

GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	<u>Closed</u> Feb. 7
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Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.
**State Dept. cooperating.
Tri-weekly.

R. M. Peterson)
G. A. DeHaven)
J. D. Evers) to Florida for
R. H. Lamb) inspection work.
S. W. Russell)
W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. TRANSFERRING BLANK CERTIFICATES FROM ONE FIELD OFFICE TO ANOTHER.

It is sometimes necessary in an emergency to transfer a few blank certificates from one field office to another in order to avoid delay in issuing certificates. A letter should accompany such certificates, requesting acknowledgment of the receipt of same. The office which received the certificates should acknowledge their receipt and forward a copy of the letter to Audits and Accounts. They will then transfer the numbers on the Washington records.

2c. INTERNATIONAL APPLE SHIPPERS REPORT.

A corrected page for the International Apple Shippers special grade pamphlet is being forwarded to all persons to whom the book was sent. This should be pasted in the pamphlet as directed.

Inspectors are requested not to write to Secretary Phillips, of the International Apple Shippers Association, for additional copies of this pamphlet. It was issued particularly for the members of the Association. The copies which have been distributed by this office were purchased from the Association, and it is not fair to request them to send out free copies.

3c. ST. LOUIS COUNTY POTATOES.

It appears that St. Louis County potatoes will make a reputation for themselves the coming season, if suggestions are put into effect which were made at a meeting of potato growers, held by the St. Louis County Farmers' Association, at Gumbo, Mo., on February 6. Despite the extremely cold weather, the meeting was well attended.

Among those present was B. S. Jones, St. Louis Inspector, who explained and demonstrated the U.S. potato grades and offered Federal inspection service for either truckloads or carloads. Following Mr. Jones' talk, many questions were asked regarding the service and the grades.

A Truck Crop Specialist in the Agricultural Extension Service at Columbia, Mo., next addressed the meeting on cooperative marketing, and strongly urged the use of certified seed, treating the seed, and fertilizing the ground. This talk was illustrated with slides.

The County Agent closed the program by urging the adoption of the previous suggestions and advised the use of Federal inspection, stating that, by careful grading in accordance with the recommended U.S. grades and by furnishing an inspection certificate, St. Louis County potatoes will bring considerably higher prices, which would well pay for the efforts put forth.

The Association plans to bring their potatoes to Chesterfield or St. Louis for loading and inspection. The bulk of the crop will be Cobblers. Meetings similar to the one held at Gumbo will be held in other parts of the county, to further this work.

4c. ITEMS FROM THE DIVISION LETTER.

Important paragraphs from Division Letters of the last three years - 1921, 1922 and 1923 - are being mimeographed in pamphlet form, and will be distributed to all Inspectors within the next week. Thereby, instructions to Inspectors will be combined in convenient form, and will be indexed for ready reference.

5c. SENDING COPIES OF REINSPECTIONS TO OUR MEN AT SHIPPING POINTS:

Whenever a reinspection certificate is issued, regardless of whether the shipping-point certificate is sustained or reversed, a copy should be sent to our representative who is in charge of the work at the point where the certificate was issued. This will enable him to take up the matter with the inspector who issued the certificate and to take whatever steps seem advisable, in case the shipping-point certificate has been reversed. If any peculiar condition is noted in connection with second inspections for condition only, our shipping-point representatives should also be notified, but it is not thought that it will be necessary to send copies of all condition inspections back to shipping point.

6c. NUMBER CERTIFICATES CORRECTLY:

Although the number is printed on the original certificate, it should also bear the type-written number just below the printed number. The important point is to see that copies of each certificate correspond in number to the original. By typing the number on the original with the printed number in sight, there should be no excuse for errors in numbering certificates. This plan should be followed in all offices in the future.

7c. DESIGNATING THE ENDS OF A CAR:

When it is necessary to designate the ends of a car by particular terms, the expressions "B end" and "A end" will be sufficient. These terms should be used when different conditions are found in the two ends of the car or when the equipment is defective in one end of the car. The term "B end" refers to the brake end of the car, and "A end" refers to the opposite end, according to the location of the hand brake rod. The use of these terms has been adopted by the railroads, and all new cars have the ends designated on the outside, just above the coupler.

F. G. ROBE,
Specialist in Inspection.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1924.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C.L.& L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C.L.& L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1923	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	14	56	70	30	8	0	\$280	-	\$11
Baltimore	37	27	64	33	0	0	252	\$7.50	-
Boston	10	53	63	94	14	1	236	12.50	9
Buffalo	31	45	76	35	40	0	128	92.50	7
Chicago	187	142	329	268	7	3	1248	50.00	31
Cincinnati	16	31	47	24	3	3	172	15.00	1
Cleveland	12	47	59	60	13	0	232	2.50	11
Columbus	26	25	51	16	21	0	184	12.50	-
Denver	16	4	20	2	0	0	76	-	-
Detroit	26	30	56	58	9	0	200	15.00	2
Erie	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Fort Worth	10	4	14	43	0	1	56	-	-
Harrisburg	0	2	2	3	0	0	8	-	-
Houston	3	9	12	37	0	0	48	-	1
Indianapolis	7	19	26	20	0	0	104	-	2
Kansas City	42	30	72	46	4	0	276	7.50	2
Los Angeles	0	5	5	3	2	0	16	2.50	-
Memphis	5	26	31	27	26	0	120	-	19
Milwaukee	14	11	25	53	1	0	96	2.50	1
Minneapolis	50	7	57	68	0	0	228	-	4
New Haven	13	21	34	-	7	0	128	7.50	6
New Orleans	16	135	151	50	115	5	560	27.50	18
New York	492	338	830	343	95	0	2552	492.50	15
Norfolk	7	41	48	23	6	7	188	2.50	1
Omaha	40	10	50	34	1	0	184	-	-
Philadelphia	18	50	68	231	4	0	248	15.00	1
Pittsburgh	13	98	111	114	15	1	404	17.50	10
Portland	10	38	48	-	1	0	184	5.00	1
Salt Lake City	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	-	-
San Antonio	6	8	14	-	0	0	52	2.50	-
San Francisco	2	2	4	2	0	0	8	5.00	-
St. Louis	33	217	250	109	169	3	972	22.50	24
Washington	13	45	58	39	16	0	228	7.50	7
Wichita	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
Wilkes-Barre	0	5	5	3	3	0	20	2.50	5
TOTAL	1169	1581	2750	1879	580	24	\$9688	\$827.50	\$189

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections....	1169	Inspections for Carriers	580
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections	1581	Declined for lack of time	24
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections...	2750	Total Fees Assessed	\$10,757.*

*Total Fees Assessed includes \$52.50 for inspections of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JANUARY, 1924.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUALITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	82288	9702	720	0	83008	9702	120	0	0	0
NEW YORK	349914	177106	915	7715	350829	184521	639	12	0	0
NORFOLK	1673526	-	193778	-	1867304	-	0	-	0	-
PHILADELPHIA	178880	13950	2175	435	181055	14385	320	30	0	0
SAN DIEGO	278616	87240	2796	4547	281412	91787	186	16	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	104630	-	24216	-	128846	-	0	-	0	-
SAN PEDRO	126609	-	1450	-	128059	-	1167	-	0	-
VALLEJO	145485	18031	13549	2195	159034	20226	858	108	0	0
TOTALS	2939948	306029	239599	14392	3179547	320921	3290	166	0	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	24750	0	24750	300	0
NORFOLK	41402	0	41402	500	0
TOTALS	66152	0	66152	800	0

In addition to the above the New York office inspected 97,046 lbs. of fruit, 277,563 lbs. of vegetables, with rejections of 11,812 lbs. for the United States Line; and 15,991 lbs. of fruits, 61,001 lbs. of vegetables, with 560 lbs. rejections for the Munson Line.

The San Pedro office also inspected and accepted 3,875 lbs. bread and 390 lbs. butter for the Navy during January.

27,355 lbs. of bread were inspected and accepted by the Vallejo office.

STANDARDIZATION WORK.

1d. GRADES FOR SCALLOP SQUASH.

Since going to Florida, Mr. Conklin has been investigating the possibility of standard grades for scallop squash. A letter of February 1 on this subject follows:

"I am enclosing a set of tentative specifications for grades for scallop squash. The early scallop squash was practically all shipped from Lee and Manatee counties, when I arrived in those districts, so my investigations were limited.

"This crop is one that usually sells at low prices, and there ordinarily are times in the season when the price gets so low that it does not pay to ship at all. For this reason, I believe that one good commercial grade is sufficient and stock which is not good enough to meet this grade can be discarded at slight expense. The second grade should be merely culls.

"Florida shippers at present pack either one or two grades, based almost entirely on size. If two grades are packed, the fancy consists of squash between about 4 and 8 inches in diameter, and choice stock under or over these sizes. The sizes vary with shippers and with lots of squash. Shippers intend that squash packed under either of these two grades shall be clean, young and tender, fairly well shaped, and free of mechanical injuries; however, a large part is farmer-packed and many lots inspected fell far below the ideals of the particular shippers. One of the chief troubles with squash is decay in transit, a large part of which starts in the scalloped edges that have been badly bruised by rough handling. Many packed lots were noted with the edges badly bruised, and one lot showed heavy Grey Mold after being packed and left in the packing house from Saturday to Monday.

"The principal things to consider in grades for scallop squash are shape, color, tenderness, and mechanical injuries. Jug shapes, inverted hat shapes, and plain-edged flat types are common and undesirable. The No. 1 stock should have a typical flat shape, be fairly round, and have a scalloped edge. Squash often has a dirty, greenish, dull color, which is undesirable and should not be allowable in No. 1 grade. Young and tender squash, which has the seeds only partially developed, and which has not yet developed a pithy pulp or tough skin, is desired for No. 1 grade. Stock with full-developed seeds and a hard skin is practically worthless for eating purposes. Packers are very careless in handling squash and do not seem to realize that bruised, discolored edges invariably result in decay. This item is given the least attention by the shippers and growers in their grading, and I believe is about the most important one.

"Scallop squash is wrapped and packed in standard crates. It is usually fairly uniformly sized in packages, but the size or count is not marked on the crate. It would be desirable to have the count marked, although minimum size would be a fair substitute. Count is better than size, as often large stock is more undesirable than small and a minimum size would not indicate all the needed information. A statement of maximum size is not satisfactory either as this would allow the packing of 'nubbins' about 3 inches in diameter, which are generally discounted."

2d. CELERY GRADES REVISED.

The tolerance provided in the U. S. celery grades has been found impracticable, especially under Florida conditions, and it has been decided to do away with the provision that "not more than one half of the total tolerance should be permitted for any one defect," and substitute a flat 10% tolerance but not more than 2% to be permitted for decay. Mr. Conklin reports that there is a great deal of trouble in the Sanford district, and that a full 10% tolerance is necessary to allow for the mistakes which occur in removing certain minor defects such as stalks showing a certain amount of pithiness.

A copy of the revised grades for celery is being sent with this Division Letter to each Inspector. All copies of the old grades should be destroyed. The best safeguard would be to write immediately the word "REVISED" across the upper right corner of the new sheet.

Particular attention should be given to the changes. You will note that the new tolerance provides that not more than 10% of any lot may be below the requirements of the grade, with a limitation of 2% on the amount of decay.

3d. OTHER FACTORS FOR CELERY GRADES.

For the information of interested employees, there is copied below a letter of February 9 from E. E. Conklin, Jr., whose headquarters are at Orlando, Fla. In this communication, Mr. Conklin discusses other points which may at some time be incorporated in the celery grades. The letter is published now, to obtain any reaction from men in the field, who may have further suggestions on these points. None of these features will be included in the grades for celery, without definite notice of such revision being made:

"Besides the question of tolerance in the celery grades, which needs immediate attention, there are other things which deserve study. After your letter of Feb. 1, regarding blanching, heart formation, and length of rib (or edible branch), as affecting grade, I have given these things especial attention in the Sanford district.

"It seems desirable that we have some blanching specification in the grades. There is some difference of opinion as to the interpretation, but growers and shippers generally seem to think that the grade would be more valuable with a blanching requirement. I would suggest that we add 'fairly well blanched.' This would have eliminated from U. S. No. 1 this past week several cars which had a definite green color. The greenness I found was because the stalks had been under the paper for only a week, all of which was cool weather. The grower knew the stock was green, but shipped it in that shape because his field was showing a heavy tendency to Pink Rot. Such stock is never desirable as first class, and no hardship would be caused by placing it out of grade. On the other hand, it seems impossible to require that stock be well blanched. A large part of the Florida stock has a light greenish cast, and this week I saw very few lots which could be called well blanched. Fairly well blanched, I believe, should include two types of cars: First, cars showing a quite uniform condition, of practically all stalks fairly well blanched. Second, cars showing most stalks well blanched and a few sports poorly blanched and with green hearts. Both of these two latter types of cars are very common and are satisfactory, if the percentage of green sports is not too high. I would suggest that a separate tolerance of 10% for blanching be made. The inspectors at present are showing on the certificates the percentage of green hearts found in each car.

"There is considerable difference of opinion among the shippers about placing on the certificate a statement of heart formation and length of edible branch. Mr. Rupert, who is in charge of the inspection work in the Sanford district, will start a system next week that should give us some definite information regarding these things. The inspectors will include in their notes a statement as to heart formation, whether good, fair, or poor, and a statement as to length of edible branch in inches. This information will not at present be placed on the certificate, but will be phoned each day to the shippers in connection with a statement as to grade, which they are now receiving over the phone. Probably it will be possible to add these things to the certificate within a week or so.

"We are finding that the French Strain has a rib length (or length of edible branch) of 8-12, mostly 10-12, inches; a branch length of 30-33 inches, and a fair to poor heart formation.

"The various strains of Golden Heart, such as Special, Pearly White, Abbot & Cobb, Meisch Special, and others, vary considerably in different fields. At present, stock generally is showing good branch length, good rib length, and fair to good (mostly good) heart formation. Growers, however, advise that, as the season advances, the rib length will decrease. We find that a desirable branch length is about 22-24 inches. A desirable rib length is about 5-7 inches; 3-4 inches is short and 8-10 is long. These ranges are commonly found in cars that might be classed short, medium and long rib-length respectively, and if we were to add a 'rib length' classification to our grades, these are about the proper places to draw the lines. However, it would be dangerous to set any classes without watching them throughout a season, as some growers believe that the medium class should be about $4\frac{1}{2}$ -7 inches, or $4\frac{3}{4}$ -7 inches to take care of the general tendency to shortness late in the season. After we have notes on several hundred cars as to length of edible branch, I believe we will be in shape to add this to the grade, if it seems desirable at that time.

"As regards sizing, in working with the inspectors this past week I have noted considerable variation in the sizing. Some lots had the correct count, but were of irregular size in crates. Unless extremely irregular, I believe that uniformity of size is a small item. Inspectors' notes show that many crates have incorrect count, but the count ordinarily is not more than 2-3 over, except the 10 size, which runs very irregular. Some growers pack an indefinite number of stalks in the 10's, sometimes as many as 200. This practice is undesirable, and, where noted by the inspectors, growers are advised to mark such packs with an 'X' rather than a size. It is impossible to know just how often the 10 pack is off count, as the inspectors ordinarily do not inspect this size. Of course, they make a notation to the effect that the 10's are not inspected, when this is the case."

4d. BARRELED APPLE GRADES IN NEW YORK STATE.

A bill recently presented in both branches of the New York Legislature makes permissive in that State the use of the Federal grades for barreled apples. Mr. Samson discussed this matter with growers and representatives of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets at the January 17 meeting of the State Horticultural Society.

H. W. SAMSON,

Specialist in Standardization.

NEWS FROM FLORIDA:

The following items were received after preceding pages of the Division Letter had been mimeographed. They form a supplement to the Inspection Service section, and are numbered in sequence accordingly:

8c. REVISED LIST OF EAST COAST SHIPPERS.

A revised list of East Coast shippers who are using the inspection service on tomatoes has been received from W. V. Stephens, at Homestead:

<u>Shipper</u>	<u>Shipping Point</u>	<u>Brand.</u>
Applegate, R. O.	Princeton, Fla.	Wm. Penn.
Fla. East Growers Assn., (W. H. Cauley)	Goulds, Fla.	Tiger Brand, Globe Brand
Chase & Co.	Goulds, Fla.	Spade Brand
Chase & Co.	Perrine, Fla.	Terrapin
Chase & Co.	Homestead, Fla.	Club Brand
Buffalo Vegetable Marketing Co.	Naranja, Fla.	Dades Delight
Buffalo Vegetable Marketing Co.	Rockdale, Fla.	Straight Mark
Hardee & Gentile	Homestead, Fla.	Liberty Bell
Hardee & Gentile	Goulds, Fla.	Circle H (Sub-Rosa)
Silver Palm Truckers Assn.	Naranja, Fla.	Silver Palm
Hinman Bros.	Princeton, Fla.	U-Like
Kerr, R. R.	Perrine, Fla.	Kerr Mark (Blue Goose)
Lee, W. E. & Co. Inc.	Black Point, Fla.	Superior
Roskey, F. A.	Homestead, Fla.	Tiger (not inspected) Rose (Inspected)
Royal Palm Truckers Assn.	Homestead, Fla.	Royal Palm
C. A. Williams & Sons.	Modello, Fla.	High Tide

9c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS.

Inspections made during the period Jan. 16 to 31 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Auburndale.....	45	Grapefruit.....	190
Clearwater.....	77	Oranges.....	59
Fort Myers.....	75	Mixed Citrus....	28
Garfield.....	32	Tangerines.....	5
Homestead.....	111	Total	282
Killarney.....	5	Celery.....	461
Leesburg.....	3	Tomatoes.....	111
Orlando.....	19	Mixed Vegetables	24
Palmetto.....	289	Cabbage.....	17
Plant City.....	29	Peppers.....	12
Sanford.....	211	Lettuce.....	8
Winter Garden..	20	Romaine.....	2
Winter Park....	1	Total	635
Total.....	917	GRAND TOTAL	917

In the Division Letter for January 31, Par. 3c, inspections for the period November 12 to January 15 were tabulated. Total to January 15 was 1,428. By adding the 917 cars inspected from January 16 to 31, the grand total is 2,345 cars to end of January.

News Items about Florida men will be found among the Office Notes on succeeding pages.

OFFICE NOTES:

Washington's Birthday, February 22, will be observed as a holiday in all offices.

R. M. Balster, who has been assisting with inspections in Omaha for the past few months and who was in charge of that work during Mr. Westgate's absence on shipping-point inspections, will return to Chicago within the next few days, making that city his future headquarters.

C. A. Weillbrenner, a member of the last training class in Chicago, has tendered his resignation, effective February 18. Please cancel Mr. Weillbrenner's name from your list of Inspectors and insert Mr. Balster's name under Chicago.

H. A. Spilman returned from his southern trip last Sunday, and on Monday went to Mt. Holly, N. J., where a test was made in the loading of three-quarter bushel baskets on trucks.

J. Wm. Park has now reported for duty in Washington, having recently come from Grand Forks, N. Dak. Frank M. Patton also returned last week from his recent trip to the South and Middle West.

Eight cars of onions were inspected at McGuffey, Ohio, last week by S. N. Green, of the Cleveland office. Mr. Green also assisted with the re-inspection of a car of cabbage at Columbus.

Neal D. Sanborn, cooperative inspector at Monte Vista, Colo., advises that shipments have fallen off rapidly in the San Luis Valley. Shippers are reluctant to forward potatoes on the present market outlook, and part of their time was devoted to a local stock show at Monte Vista.

F. A. Powell states that he has been able to inspect every car of potatoes which has been shipped from Eagle, Colo., this season. Other inspectors in the West Slope territory are getting a large percentage of the shipments.

Cooperative inspection service is being received with increasing favor in the Delta district of Colorado, according to advices from G. W. Dyer, inspector. The service has been adopted by many of the largest shippers.

During January, the Colorado inspectors examined and certified 1,309 cars, mostly potatoes, onions and apples. This is 100 cars more than it had been estimated would be inspected that month.

C. W. Hauck has gone from New York City to Boston, in his study of the terminal market auction companies.

Denver receivers are using the inspection service in that city more extensively than during any previous year. Recent inspections by Paul A. Cauble covered cars of apples, oranges, Spanish onions, grapefruit, and bananas. Most of this work has been on cars which were not inspected at shipping point.

OFFICES NOTES: (Continued)

Judgment has been rendered by Justice Bourquin of the United States District Court of Montana in the excess wool profits case against Wm. Rea, Jr. which was tried at Billings, Montana, on October 3, last. Judgment was in favor of the Government in the amount of \$510.25 with interest. This Department was represented by J. S. Bohannon of the Solicitor's office and H.V. De Mott, auditor of the Domestic Wool Section, as witness.

At a meeting of the Michigan Potato Producers' Association, held on February 5 during Farmers' Week at East Lansing, Mich., R. H. Shoemaker, of our Grand Rapids office, gave a talk on lessons learned from market reports,

George A. DeHaven, who has been doing inspection work around Palmetto, Fla., was transferred recently to Sanford, where he will assist P. D. Rupert. He stopped at the Orlando office en route.

S. W. Russell has been sent to Palmetto to assist Nathaniel Farnworth with inspections in that district. Mr. Russell had been stationed at Plant City.

A. E. Mercker is spending the latter part of this week on the East Coast of Florida, conferring with W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector in Charge at Homestead, and interviewing shippers in that section.

The residence telephone number of B. H. Rowell, Inspector at Indianapolis, is Lincoln 4248. Insert this on your list of Inspectors and their addresses.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 8
February 21, 1924.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE SITUATION.

In a letter of February 15 to the Agricultural Statistician at Sacramento, Calif., C. E. Schultz described the Imperial Valley lettuce situation as follows:

"The market is a little stronger, as you may note by reading any of the recent bulletins from this office. This fact has stimulated the cutting of some stock which might otherwise have been allowed to waste. Weather conditions have been more favorable the past two weeks and sizes are running slightly larger, although the majority of the stock shipped is still heavy to five dozens.

"Shipments from the Valley to date are around 1,200 cars ahead of last year at this time. Last season nearly 5,000 cars were moved out of the Valley after this date. It is a little doubtful if that amount can again be shipped this season, but more operators are beginning to realize that between 8,000 and 9,000 cars is nearer the possible output this season than the 6,000 cars that were generally talked a month ago. With continued favorable weather, I think most conservative shippers will agree that 9,000 cars would be possible, but hot weather during the next 60 days might cut this estimate to 8,000 cars or even less. In view of these two possibilities, my personal estimate would be close to 8,500 cars for this season's final shipments.

"Later plantings are evidently going to yield better than the early acreage did and certainly better than was anticipated at the time that we were having regular nightly frosts during nearly the entire month of January.

"The quality of stock shipped from the Valley during the last month has been considerably below past standards because of the large percentage of frost damage to the leaves. Much stock has had to be trimmed very close and this has tended to reduce the size somewhat. Recent warmer weather has improved the quality, although some stock is now being culled because of bursted heads and a slight loosening of some of the younger heads. Most stock, however, is fairly firm to firm.

"The low grade of the lettuce has caused fewer shippers to ask for the shipping-point inspection recently because of the limited amount of stock which would pass the U. S. No. 1 grade requirements. Many shippers do not think it worth the expense to have a certificate on a car, unless it can show up to grade.

"I hear estimates on the covered cantaloupe acreage varying from 18,000 to as high as 23,000. The uncovered cantaloupe acreage is now being planted, so that no definite data of any dependable nature is available. The whole subject is uncertain because of the Jap situation."

(Page 81)

WHEN YOU THINK OF IMPROVEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE MADE IN ANY LINE OF
WORK IN THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION, DO NOT HESITATE
TO SPEAK TO THE ONE IN CHARGE OF YOUR OFFICE,
OR WRITE TO WASHINGTON ABOUT IT.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. WISCONSIN CABBAGE SEASON NEARLY COMPLETED.

In a letter of February 15, W. E. Hall, of the Chicago office, presented the following facts regarding Wisconsin cabbage:

Chicago dealers are of the opinion that the Wisconsin cabbage movement is practically at an end. Estimates of the amount of the crop yet on hand vary from 100 to 150 cars. Straggling shipments are expected until the middle of March, but it is not believed that they will be of sufficient volume to influence the market.

General quality of Wisconsin cabbage has not been up to normal. Most of the stock arriving in mid-February was of poor or only fair quality and usually over-ripe. Much of the cabbage is larger than the trade desires, and it has been found that these large heads turn white more quickly than medium or small ones, and therefore decline in value. A few cars of New York stock have been offered for sale, and its superiority over Wisconsin stock was pronounced.

Some Chicago operators who buy their supplies in the Appleton and Racine district each year say that the growers generally underestimated the production and that many of the large fields yielded at least 25% more cabbage than the owners had expected up to cutting time. Probably the crop was somewhat heavier than officially estimated, but not enough to make a great difference in the total production of all late cabbage States.

While there have been a few brief periods when the market advanced sharply, as a rule jobbing prices have been lower than dealers anticipated and very little money has been made out of the deal. In fact, some dealers who bought late in the season may have lost money, as they were obliged to pay high prices to the farmers, ranging up to \$20 per ton. As the shrinkage of cabbage is heavy, it would seem that such purchasers netted a loss, considering that the f.o.b. market has ranged from \$25 to \$30 most of the season. Severe competition from Florida stock has been an important factor in bearing the Chicago market, and during the first two weeks of February Texas stock has been prominent.

2b. NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY IN DENVER.

In the following letter of February 15, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, tells of the success with which he is meeting in having the morning newspaper publish his daily market report:

"As I have stated in previous letters, the newspapers and the Associated Press are taking hold of our stuff in good shape. The enclosed proof will indicate the manner in which the Rocky Mountain News is endeavoring to use our information as a circulation builder in the farming sections.

"The News at present is the only paper using our report daily and they are therefore endeavoring to capitalize this fact by boosting their country circulation. I told the financial editor that there certainly was no objection to this, inasmuch as they are doing their own soliciting and the same information has been offered to the other Denver papers.

"It is my plan eventually to utilize the afternoon papers rather than the morning paper and thereby get the information to their subscribers more promptly than at present. However, I find that it takes time and considerable work in getting up the information in a manner which the papers will handle readily. I feel sure that they will all use the information later, especially when the lettuce season gets under way and the Colorado fruits begin to move to market."

The "proof" to which Mr. Snow refers is a copy of galley proof of his daily market report for February 12, as it was printed in the Rocky Mountain News. The report covers potatoes, apples, cabbage and onions in a concise way, giving the shipments, the Denver market, a few other city markets, and f.o.b. information. It occupies fully 12 inches of one column. On the same slip, used for advertising purposes, the newspaper has printed in large attractive type the following words:

"A new feature of interest to ALL FARMERS in the Rocky Mountain Region. It will run daily and Sunday in The Rocky Mountain News, Denver's only morning newspaper. This new feature will appear in the financial columns each day, adding to these already popular pages. Our Financial Pages are acknowledged to be superior to any in the West. You cannot afford to be without The Rocky Mountain News. Don't forget the new post-office ruling, giving newspapers first class delivery. This is a big thing for the farmer reading a morning paper, as in nearly all cases he gets his paper the same day it is printed."

3b. ARRIVALS IN NEW YORK CITY.

The New York office, under date of February 15, issued an interesting and very useful tabulation of receipts of fruits and vegetables in that market during the calendar year 1923. The first page lists the arrivals of 72 different products by months, giving the total for the year and a comparative total for 1922 on the leading products. Grand total arrivals of the 72 fruits and vegetables, including l.c.l. receipts reduced to equivalent carload were 150,012 cars. Succeeding pages give separate tables for 28 important products, showing the monthly arrivals by originating States. At the bottom of most of these tables comparative monthly totals are given for the preceding four years. Copies of this special release can be secured from O. D. Miller, New York.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 16:

Page 101 - Special paragraphs on Rutabagas and Carrots in weekly review.
103 - Wisconsin Potato Situation, - by Mr. Mosier.
- Potatoes Steady in Red River Valley, - by Mr. Park.
- Small Returns from Low-Grade Produce, - From "Marketing Activities."
106 - Florida Products, Week Ending Feb. 9 (end of weekly review).

5b. LETTUCE ADDED TO UNLOAD COMMODITIES.

All unload reports from stations now securing these statistics should include LETTUCE in the future. These additional data are desired from January 1, 1924. It is believed that practically all offices already have this information on file and can send January figures to Washington immediately.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Note Par. 6b on another page.

Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. EXPENSES INCIDENT TO INSPECTIONS AT OUTSIDE PLACES.

Read carefully Par. 2c in Division Letter of January 10 on condition of inspection funds. Please pay particular attention to the portion of this article governing procedure when expenses of the Inspector are paid in cash to the Inspector. Observe that no notation should be made of expenses either on the fee bill or on the certificate. If such mention is made, entry will be made on records in Washington covering the amount which is already paid. This is not only confusing but is likely to place the Inspector in the position of having to explain receipt of expense money by him, when the records show a charge was made against the Department. Transportation Requests should never be used for such trips, for there is no way in which money received by the Department can be applied to travel expenses. When it is received by the Department, it must go into Miscellaneous Receipts and the traveling expenses must be paid from our appropriation.

2c. SUNDAY INSPECTIONS.

An opinion has been obtained from the Solicitor of the Department, R. W. Williams, as to the legality of inspections made on Sunday. The Solicitor's memorandum reads:-

"Reference is made to your memorandum of January 2, requesting to be informed whether the fact that an inspection under the Food Products Inspection Law was made on Sunday would invalidate the certificate issued by the inspector or prevent its introduction as evidence in the courts.

"The law provides that such certificates shall be received in all of the courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained, and makes no reference to the time of issuance. There is not, to my knowledge, any law of the United States which could be construed to prohibit such inspections or the issuance of such certificates on Sunday, or any rule of the Federal courts which would prevent their introduction as evidence. Such certificates issued on Sunday would not appear to be contrary to law.

"However, the States generally curtail by law the activities of those within their borders in the pursuit of worldly employment on Sunday, and while State laws are held not to apply to Federal officers in such a manner as to interfere with the discharge of their duties, I doubt the advisability of issuing food products inspection certificates on the Sabbath unless such action is reasonably necessary."

This memorandum confirms the practice of the Inspection Service in the past. While no Inspector is required to work on Sunday, it may be advisable under certain circumstances to make an occasional inspection on that day.

3c. INSPECTION OF TEXAS ONIONS.

We are advised by the Texas Farm Bureau Onion Growers' Exchange that the contract has been signed with the State for State-Federal inspection on all onions handled by the Exchange.

4c. ADVISABILITY OF PAYING FEES AND INSPECTION FEE AT SAME TIME.

Mr. Gardner, of our Pittsburgh office, has called attention to the advisability of collecting the inspection fee at the same time expenses are collected in cash in connection with inspection trips to outside markets. If the applicant pays only the expenses of the Inspector in cash, he is likely to feel that he has paid the entire cost of the inspection and may question the fee bill which is sent to him later. If he pays both at once, there is no possibility for such a misunderstanding.

5c. FREEZING INJURY IN CABBAGE.

The following paragraph from a recent letter, written by J. A. Marks, in charge of the shipping-point inspection work around Avoca, N. Y., tells of the manner in which freezing injury of cabbage is handled:

"On the matter of freezing injury in cabbage, will say that we have had a ruling all season on this point to the effect that any damage extending two or three leaves into the head should be counted a defect. I have told them that, where one leaf was slimy or, badly injured, and a good many heads affected, the stock was not 'well trimmed,' though I felt that slight defects or discoloration to the outer leaf, not affecting the appearance of the stock materially nor apt to develop into decay, could be disregarded. However, a head showing bad freezing injury to two or more leaves of the dry, withered or papery type or one or more of the water-soaked type of injury is not 'free from damage from freezing' nor 'well trimmed' and is apt to show soft rot on the other end. Certainly it will be apt to look a lot worse. Mr. Conklin, I believe, used the same interpretation."

6c. AN INTERESTING REINSPECTION.

In the February 15 issue of the Weekly News Letter, Colorado Inspection Service, E. F. McKune relates the following interesting case of reinspection:

"On Monday of this week, a car of Peoples Russet potatoes was inspected in the Denver yards in the presence of Mr. Tom Lytle of Montrose, a member of the Executive Committee of the Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange, Mr. Ben Gibson, Manager of the Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange, Mr. Bowser, Potato Salesman for the Weyl-Zuckerman Co., Mr. Cauble and myself. This car had previously been inspected at Montrose by Mr. Evans, Manager of the Montrose Cooperative Association, Mr. Loss (our inspector at that point) and myself.

"The re-inspection was conducted for the purpose of determining the amount of deterioration of this lot of potatoes in transit. It was found that the major cuts and bruises showed some deterioration; this was in the further development of wet and dry rot. The minor cuts and bruises showed very little change. The car in question had been marked unclassified at shipping point because of dry rot, sunburn and freezing injury to the amount of 11 or 12 per cent. The receiving-point inspection showed the same defects only to a greater extent, the average at receiving point amounting to approximately 14 to 15 per cent."

7c. SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISION OF THE HANDBOOK.

(Important)

A request was published a few weeks ago for suggestions as to items which should be considered in revising our receiving-point Handbook. To date, only one Inspector has replied. When our Handbook was revised the last time, a number of Inspectors sent in criticisms after the new form was out. If you have suggestions, let us have them now.

8c. INSPECTOR IMPRISONED IN COLD STORAGE ROOM.

Read the following letter of Feb. 14 from Mr. Replee, of Buffalo:

"On January 26, when the thermometer registered 5° below zero, it was my good pleasure to make several inspections at the Rogerson Cold Storage, Le Roy, N. Y. I took an early morning train and changed to a local at Batavia. The local had no more than started from Batavia, when the engine broke down and left the passengers marooned in a coach with the temperature at just the zero mark. Finally, after an hour and a half's wait, a freight engine arrived from Attica and we proceeded upon our journey. On my arrival at Le Roy, the wind which had been blowing assumed a gale velocity. It picked up the snow and hurled it so that, at times, it was impossible to see, even across the street.

"The only avenue of approach from the depot in Le Roy to the Rogerson Cold Storage is across a foot bridge on a railroad trestle. This, I navigated easily with the wind to my back, arrived at the Cold Storage and worked until noon. I looked at the thermometer at the side of the Cold Storage when I left for something to eat, and saw that the temperature was just 2° above zero. The wind was blowing harder than ever. I knew that the bridge was safe, having a good solid boardwalk and a substantial railing along the side; so there was no danger in crossing the high bridge. I started out facing the wind but could not stand that, so had to back across the ^{bridge} and by the time I had arrived at the other side I had almost lost my breath and was nearly frozen. After dinner, I returned to the Cold Storage, feeling that the day had been somewhat beset with difficulties, but little did I know that the worst was yet to come.

"The men at the Storage were working short-handed. The foreman showed me where two cars I was to look at were stored underground, and took me down on the elevator. He had shown me how to operate the elevator and said that, when I had finished and wished to go to the upper floors on the remaining car, I should run the elevator. I had only about a half hour's work to finish up my inspections below ground; then was ready to go to the upper floors. I pulled at the rope on the elevator,-- it stayed perfectly motionless at the bottom. I tried again and again but without results. Finally, I looked around for some other means of exit, a stairway or ladder and found --none! I tried calling, but the walls gave back only my echo. I called down the air chute, but was answered by dead silence. I went out near the elevator shaft and sat down. There was nothing to do; I was a prisoner.

"I sat there looking at the reeking walls, recalling what lines I could from 'The Prisoner of Chillon,' and, as if by mute irony to make my realization more vivid, I saw the lights flicker, then -- absolute darkness!! I got out my flash light and, seated on an upturned apple box, I waited. Fifteen minutes went by; thirty minutes passed; one hour rolled by; one hour and thirty minutes; one hour and forty-five minutes. I began to get an uncomfortable feeling, not only in body but in mind. It was Saturday afternoon. What if the foreman should not come to my rescue! I might have to camp here until sometime next week. I sat by the elevator cogitating on how I could, with my hatchet and tools, cut the wire cage of the elevator and make an attempt to 'shimmy' up the side, when lo and behold! as I sat there looking at the cage, it began slowly to move upward. I lost no time in getting on it.

Slowly, slowly it arose and, when it reached the ground floor, I pulled the rope and it stopped. I immediately made a bee-line for the foreman and told him of my plight. He said he had just discovered that the belt (as it had a habit of doing) had slipped its wheel. He said he thought about me, and went to look at the shaft and saw that the belt was off. He felt rather chagrined at the affair, and helped me with the remaining cars so that I could make the last train out of Le Roy that day. The foreman explained that, only a few days previously, the Niagara Falls Power Company had taken over the electric lights and power for Le Roy and they were working on the lines, and that was the reason the lights had gone off."

9c. "APPLE SCALD AND ITS CONTROL."

A copy of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1380, entitled "Apple Scald and Its Control," is being sent to each Inspector. A large part of this bulletin is devoted to a consideration of oiled paper wraps, as a means of controlling scald on apples.

10c. NEW RECORDS IN INSPECTION WORK.

Reference to the table of receiving-market inspections for January, published on Page 73 of the last Division Letter, will reveal the fact that New York's total of 830 inspections is the largest monthly record ever made by any office. The January grand total of 2,750 inspections is the highest for that month, previous high mark for January being 2,100 in 1922.

11c. DID YOU RECEIVE CORRECTED PAGE FOR GRADE PAMPHLET?

About two weeks ago, the regular Federal Inspectors were sent copies of the International Apple Shippers grade pamphlet. If you are one who received that book, did you also receive the 4-3/4" x 7-3/4" slip, printed in red and black ink, which is to be pasted in the book as a correction? Those having the pamphlet and not having the corrected page should request a copy of the correction slip from Washington office.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

(Continued from Page 83)

6b. TOMATOES FROM BAHAMA ISLANDS.

Heretofore, shipments of Bahama tomatoes have been included under the heading of Cuban tomatoes. No one knows why this was done, but it has been the custom in our shipment reports for at least six years. Quotations on Bahama tomatoes appear to be numerous and of interest to the trade, and it is our purpose hereafter to show Bahama imports separately. Beginning today, these tomatoes will be segregated in shipment wires. Statistics for last season show the following figures: Total imports from Bahama, via Miami, Fla., 136 carloads, and from Cuba, 75 cars.

E.W.S.

STANDARDIZATION WORK1d. REVISED GRADES FOR CAULIFLOWER.

Attention is called to the revised grades for cauliflower, a copy of which accompanies this Division Letter. The provision in the former grades, limiting the tolerance for a single defect to 5%, has been removed, but no tolerance is allowed for decay. The grades also require the jackets to be well trimmed. This specification proved necessary because of the tendency for shippers to pack heads which were mainly leaves. It will be noted that, under the definition of "well trimmed," there is a statement that "the jackets should be trimmed to extend not more than 3 inches above the top of the curd." This need not be regarded as an invariable rule for heads of all sizes, but it is hoped that it will tend to do away with the practice of allowing the leaves to hide the curd completely.

The Oregon broccoli crop will be inspected on the basis of these grades and it is expected that shipments will start in the immediate future.

2d. THE GRADING OF CALIFORNIA LETTUCE.

The following statement as to the grading of California lettuce has been furnished by W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, Sacramento: He feels that any appreciable trimming or picking of the edge of the leaves in order to remove any damaged portion would be very detrimental to the appearance of the lettuce and should bar it from U.S. grade No. 1. In this connection, he refers only to the wrapper leaves or those which do not enfold the head. Marginal browning has been very noticeable on a great deal of stock from the Imperial Valley, and there have been many burst heads. A very small percentage of the cars meet U.S. grade No. 1. The inspections have been decreasing, but the new crop will soon be ready. It is the belief of the California Department that marginal browning may develop and may increase very materially in transit.

In regard to freezing injury, the California Department has given definite instructions that no lots shall be passed as U. S. No. 1 which show any freezing injury to the head leaves.

3d. OTHER IDEAS ON CELERY GRADES.

Mr. Conklin's celery investigations in Florida and also the shipping-point inspection on that crop have stimulated interest in the U. S. celery grades at both ends of the line. The Washington office has received letters from Messrs. Bish, Allewelt, Conklin and M. A. Russell. It is felt that there should be some provision in the grades regarding blanching, and that some attention should be given to the length of the edible stalk. Men in receiving markets are agreed that extremely short, scrubby stalks are strongly objected to by the trade but they are not at present excluded from U. S. No. 1 grade. Mr. Allewelt suggests that this condition might possibly be handled by providing that stalks shall be well formed. Mr. Russell feels that the length of the stalks is of such importance that it must be handled and that, if the edible portion cannot be measured practicably, the "over all" length should be given. We shall be glad to have the opinion of other Inspectors on this point.

4d. MODIFICATION OF FLORIDA CITRUS EXCHANGE GRADES.

The following excerpt is from a letter written by E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Orlando, Fla., on February 15:

"Possibly you have heard that the Florida Citrus Exchange have recently changed their citrus grades, so that they now read exactly like the U. S. grades except that Brights may show not more than 15% light discoloration, and Goldens not more than 70% light discoloration. (U. S. grades call for 20% and 75% respectively.) The Exchange recently published large charts showing these new specifications and sent them to all the local associations to be placed in the packing houses. The charts make no reference to U. S. grades.

"I do not notice any difference in grading methods in the Exchange houses since the change in specifications. As previously, houses vary greatly in their grading, and many of them pack far from the grades."

5d. TESTS BEING MADE OF PEANUT GRADES.

The U. S. peanut grades are also the subject of investigation to determine the proper tolerance for discolored peanuts which are otherwise sound. Series of roasting tests are being conducted to determine the effect of different percentages of discolored nuts on the appearance of the finished product.

6d. GRADES FOR BUNCHED BEETS, CARROTS AND TURNIPS; ALSO EGGPLANT.

A preliminary draft for Federal grades for bunched beets, carrots and turnips has been prepared by Wm. E. Lewis, who recently made investigations in Louisiana and South Texas. Mr. Conklin, now in Florida, has formulated tentative grades for eggplant.

E. W. SALSON,

Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:

Every office is being sent, with this Division Letter, a copy of the Bureau map of the leased wire and radio system. This is worth keeping. Note that on the reverse side of the map is a complete list of the offices on the leased wire and those reached by radio. As stated before, Trenton should now be cancelled wherever it appears on the map or list of offices, and very soon Waupaca, Wis., should be changed to Stevens Point.

Mr. Sherman left Washington last Sunday for Florida. For at least a week, he will be traveling with the Chief of the Bureau, Dr. H. C. Taylor, on a tour of the various shipping-point inspection headquarters, studying this work in actual operation. Later, Mr. Sherman will attend the Watermelon Distributors' convention at Tifton, Ga., and then perhaps visit points in other States.

S. W. Russell, who has been assisting with shipping-point inspections in Florida the past few weeks, has been transferred to Atlanta, Ga., where he will assist T. C. Curry with market news reports. Special reports on asparagus are to be started by the Atlanta office very shortly.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

About 500 inspections, mostly cabbage, have been completed this season in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, according to advices from J. Harold Hoover, in charge of that work.

The snow and sleet storm of Tuesday and Wednesday interfered with leased wire traffic on the Southern Circuit and between Washington and Pittsburgh on Wednesday.

C. W. Hauck has visited the auctions in Philadelphia, New York and Boston. On Tuesday he was in Rochester, N.Y., and expected to stop for a day or two at Cleveland, en route to Chicago and other cities in which he will continue these studies. As a result of this trip, it is hoped to complete the bulletin, begun by A. D. Miller, on auction methods of selling produce.

C. H. Johnson, who has been on the Inspection Service staff for more than a year and who is now in charge of this work in Minneapolis, has resigned, effective March 1. K. S. Branch will go from Chicago this week to assume temporary charge of the Minneapolis inspection office. On your list of Inspectors, please cancel Mr. Johnson's name under Minneapolis and Mr. Branch's under Chicago, also inserting the latter's name at Minneapolis.

R. N. Balster returns to Chicago from Omaha about March 1, Notice of this proposed transfer was published in the last Division Letter.

Cooperative inspector, F. A. Powell, at Eagle, Colo., reports that it is necessary to mark a large percentage of the cars unclassified, which are inspected in his district. The reason for this is the large amount of dry rot present in all lots of potatoes.

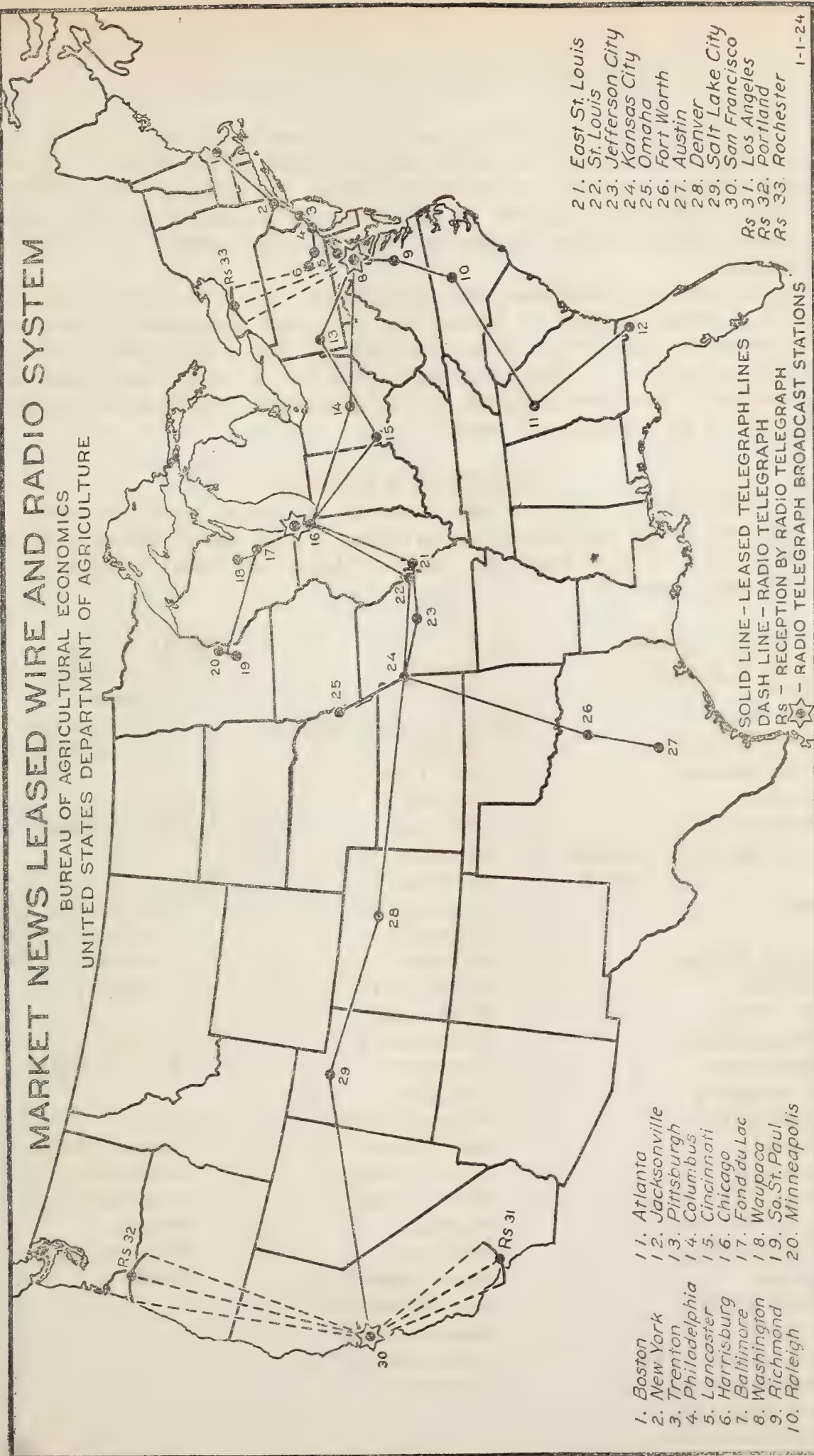
On Tuesday morning, Prof. Howard F. Huber, instructor in vegetable gardening in the New Jersey College of Agriculture, New Brunswick, N.J., together with Mr. Dilts from Trenton and several instructors in horticulture in the College, brought the short-course students in horticulture to the New York market to show them the various phases of marketing produce. They visited the Washington Market, the auction display of fruits on the Erie Piers and attended an auction sale. W. C. Hackleman joined them at this time and accompanied the party through the Merchants Refrigerating plant at North Moore Street, a celery washing and repacking plant where trimmed and washed celery is prepared, after which they came to our local office. Mr. Hackleman then talked to them for a short time on the work of the Inspection Service and Market News Service in New York City.

W. H. Steinbauer, of the Washington office, went to Charles Town, West Virginia, on Monday, where he inspected 5,000 barrels of apples in storage at that point.

The Weekly News Letter from Florida had not been received, when our Division Letter "went to press." A page had been reserved for Florida items, and failure of the News Letter to arrive in time made it necessary to change page numbers from 89 to 83 in this D. L.

MARKET NEWS LEASED WIRE AND RADIO SYSTEM

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



MARKET NEWS LEASED WIRE AND RADIO SYSTEM.

The leased wire and radio telegraph communication system, as operated on January 1 by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is illustrated on the map on the reverse of this sheet. This shows all offices on the Federal leased wire system and the three primary broadcasting stations, namely, Arlington, Va., Chicago and San Francisco.

These primary stations broadcast by radio telegraph, market news reports on a large number of products, crop and livestock information and special reviews. Receiving stations pick up the information and re-broadcast it by radio telephone. Rochester receives the telegraphic radio messages from Arlington. Los Angeles and Portland receive information from San Francisco by radio or commercial wire.

MARKET NEWS OFFICES.

(*Indicates offices not located on leased wire or using primary radio broadcasting system. Field stations operating only part of the year and some offices for local reporting are not shown.)

<u>Butter, Cheese, Eggs</u> <u>& Dressed Poultry.</u>	<u>Wool.</u>	<u>Grain & Hay.</u>
Boston	Boston	Washington
New York		Chicago
Philadelphia	<u>Fruits & Vegetables.</u>	Minneapolis
Washington	Boston	Kansas City
Chicago	New York	
Minneapolis	Rochester	<u>Feed.</u>
Fond du Lac (cheese only)	Trenton	Washington
San Francisco	Philadelphia	
	Baltimore	<u>Seed.</u>
	Washington	Washington (during active selling season - January- June.)
<u>Livestock & Meats.</u>	Richmond	
Boston	Atlanta	
New York	Jacksonville	
Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	
Lancaster	Cincinnati	<u>Broomcorn.</u>
Harrisburg	Chicago	Kansas City
Washington	Waupaca	
Atlanta	Minneapolis	<u>Cotton.</u>
Chicago	St. Louis	Washington
South St. Paul	Kansas City	Atlanta
East St. Louis	Fort Worth	*Charlotte
Kansas City	Austin	*Memphis
Omaha	Denver	*New Orleans
Fort Worth	Salt Lake City	*Dallas.
Denver	San Francisco	
Salt Lake City	Los Angeles	
San Francisco	Portland, Ore.	
*Los Angeles	*Spokane.	
Portland, Ore.		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 9
February 28, 1924.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. DRY WEATHER AFFECTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PRODUCTS.

Walter Kingsbury, of the San Diego office, sent the following information in a letter of February 21:-

"The most serious feature at present is the long drouth which has done much harm and is making growers anxious. The rainy season should normally have begun a couple of months ago, but up to the present time there has been scarcely any rain. There are still two months, however, during which rain may be expected. Many winter vegetables, including cauliflower, are grown without irrigation, depending on the winter rains, and have been hard hit, the effect of the drouth showing in the inferior quality of offerings on the local market.

"Most celery is grown with irrigation, but a large amount of Black Heart is appearing and dealers attribute this condition to the dry weather. Lemon trees in the Chula Vista section are heavily loaded with fruit, but it is running small in size and there is an unusually large amount of tree-ripe fruit. Rainfall last season was below normal, and orchards and vineyards in the El Cajon Valley without irrigation are suffering."

2a. POTATO SITUATION IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Writing to C. J. Hansen, of San Francisco, on February 16, Mr. Harris described the potato situation in the Los Angeles territory as follows:-

"You are correct in your surmise that the potato shipments from Southern California are seed stock. Most of them are moving from Temecula to points in San Diego and Los Angeles Counties. I understand that most of the stock belongs to Mr. McSweeney at El Monte.

"Very little acreage has been planted to potatoes around Los Angeles, and prospects are not encouraging. There is supposed to be around 1,000 acres in San Diego County, and there would have been two or three hundred more planted on dry lands if we had had rain. The only section producing potatoes at present is the Oceanside-Carlsbad district in Orange County. Their shipments have been light, mostly to this market, with a few small express lots to eastern markets. This stock has been bringing 10-12¢ per pound in a small way.

"The chief producing section in the south, of course, is the San Fernando Valley. They have not planted anything yet, as their normal planting time is between February 15 and March 15. As you know, they depend on the city aqueduct for irrigation water, and a recent ruling of the Water Department denies them the use of water for flooding their land, until we have rains or increased snowfall in the mountains. This hits the potato growers pretty hard, as the ground is so dry they cannot plow without first irrigating it. If we should have a good rain, they would of course not need irrigation water. While there is no question that rainfall is far below normal all over the southern part of the State, the general impression here is that this ruling on the part of the Water Department is a political move to force the support of the San Fernando farmers for the proposed bond election next May, in which the city wants \$30,000,000 for the development of the Colorado River. However, the immediate effect will be a greatly reduced acreage, unless we have rain shortly.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. PUBLICITY WORK INCREASES IN DENVER.

Further news as to results obtained through the papers and the Associated Press in Colorado is contained in John D. Snow's letter of February 21:

"Just a line about the newspaper work: Things appear to be breaking for us, although it is a bit too early to justify too much optimism. As I have previously written, the Denver News is handling our information to the extent of one-third column daily, and the Associated Press is taking nearly a column weekly for their Colorado Mail Service which reaches about a dozen dailies in the State. These two agencies of distribution will take specially-prepared information only. Today I made arrangements with a newly-formed Denver concern, which will give our information a large country circulation. The Mountain Feature Syndicate, as it is called, has contracted with 65 weeklies in the State to furnish them with four pages of inserts for their weekly issues, and we are to have one column each week. This will give us a country circulation of 40,000, and I most certainly hope and expect that these plans will work out successfully."

2b. ARRIVALS IN NEW YORK CITY.

The recent special release, showing the 1923 arrivals of 72 fruits and vegetables in New York, has been received with great favor, according to a letter from O. D. Miller. A large number of requests have come in for extra copies. This release was distributed not only to New York's regular mailing list but also to 15 newspapers in the city and vicinity, the latter copies being accompanied by a short introductory story, suitable for separate publication if desired. Trade papers also were furnished copies of the report.

The following table shows average daily arrivals in each month, based on averages of the figures for the past four years. In the case of strawberries, a three-year average is used, because there are no available figures for 1920.

Average Daily Arrivals in New York, 1920-1923 Inclusive.

Product	(Cars)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Apples	35.0	36.4	35.8	20.7	18.1	8.3	9.9	23.1	39.5	79.1	66.9	43.5
Cabbage	7.5	9.4	14.0	15.3	19.4	13.3	.9	1.5	2.5	4.7	8.8	8.2
Cantaloupes	-	-	-	-	.8	29.3	48.5	41.1	27.9	9.4	2.1	.9
Celery	7.8	9.8	11.4	8.5	3.0	.9	.2	.7	2.2	3.9	5.2	9.2
Grapes	.1	-	-	.1	.2	.5	.9	7.8	56.0	34.5	94.2	24.1
Lettuce	15.0	16.4	20.2	21.0	16.7	3.1	9.1	11.1	9.6	10.9	17.6	17.6
Onions	11.5	13.4	12.9	12.4	19.3	13.7	13.4	13.1	17.6	23.5	19.9	11.8
Peaches	-	-	-	-	3.5	22.6	53.9	37.3	23.6	8.1	-	-
Pears	2.6	1.7	1.3	.4	.1	-	1.3	17.4	38.7	27.3	15.2	5.7
Potatoes	37.8	37.4	44.7	53.7	62.9	109.9	69.2	41.7	46.5	56.9	55.4	44.3
Strawberries	1.1	2.5	3.3	9.4	40.3	22.7	2.6	-	-	-	-	-
Sweet Potatoes	7.4	6.2	5.8	3.6	1.9	.9	.6	7.2	13.1	15.0	14.6	9.6
Tomatoes	2.3	5.1	14.3	13.9	19.5	28.1	19.4	10.9	75.8	6.9	4.0	2.0
Watermelons	-	-	-	-	3.2	22.5	43.6	23.8	3.1	-	-	-

3b. QUOTING PRICES AND CONDITIONS UNCHANGED IN MARKET WIRES.

At the December conference, it was decided that prices and conditions in the market wires should not be quoted "unchanged" more than twice, - that is, that the same prices and conditions should not appear more than three times in the wires without being repeated in full, and that on Monday or the day following a holiday prices and conditions should always be given in full in the market wires.

About a month ago, at the request of a relaying station, all offices were asked to give complete prices and conditions of potatoes and apples on Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as Mondays, to assist those relaying to field stations operating on a thrice-weekly basis. Upon further consideration, it seems unnecessary to take up the extra time on the leased wire that might occasionally be required by the above order, as those relaying the reports can take from their file copies such "unchanged" information as may be needed. The original policy, as indicated in the paragraph above, will remain in force throughout the year. This applies to both market and field station wires.

It should be realized that the phrase "prices unchanged" means that originating States, containers, varieties, grades, and prices are all exactly like those of the preceding day. At the conference, it was suggested that salesmen on the market often will say that there is no change in prices or conditions to save themselves the time and bother of discussing changes with the reporter, and that further inquiry often may reveal changes in certain varieties or grades. Be positive that the market is absolutely unchanged, before saying so in the wire on any day. If only one or two changes have taken place, it will be satisfactory to say "Friday's prices unchanged except (indicating the change)"; or, if a new quotation is to be added to the old ones, which have not changed, "Friday's prices unchanged, but add -----." It is obvious that, if even one price has been changed, the phrase "no change in prices" should not be used. It will be satisfactory in such cases to say "GOHUY except HABOH and ---- (indicating the change in price)."

4b. SMALL NEW YORK POTATOES IN DEMAND.

Writing under date of February 26, C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, makes the following remarks regarding the New York potato situation:

"You may be interested to know that there has been a better demand lately for U.S. No. 2 potatoes than for No. 1's. The reason is that the size has run large in this State and, consequently, there is but little small stock left after sorting. This stock is largely exported to Cuba, where there has been a ready market recently for more cars than were available. The price differential between No. 1's and No. 2's is rather small; for example, No. 1's today are worth \$2.20-2.30, while No. 2's are worth \$1.80-1.90 per 150-pound sack, on an f.o.b. basis.

"Certified White Sprout (Green Mountain) seed for March delivery has been selling at \$3.15-3.25 per 150-pound sack, delivered New York rate. The freight to New York is 28½¢ per 100 pounds."

5b. VALUABLE CARD INDEXES.

The New York office keeps a card index of crop and shipment information on all important products which is released in various publications of the Bureau; this makes the data readily available. A card file of local dealers also is maintained, giving simply their addresses and phone numbers, and another file is being prepared, listing dealers by commodities and rating them confidentially for use of the market reporter and any substitutes or successors. This list shows extent of cooperation and reliability of dealers.

6b. CHANGE IN VARIETIES ON APPLE PAGE OF CODE.

The list of apple varieties on the apple page of the code has been gone over carefully in accordance with the decisions reached at the recent conference and with market practices, and it has been decided to make certain revisions as shown below. It will be noted that some varieties, which are unimportant, have been omitted from this revision, and a few other varieties, used more often in the reports, have been inserted.

The original code symbols have been retained so far as possible. This has been carried to the extent of placing certain varieties, such as Spy, Wagener and White Winter Pearmain, out of their regular alphabetical order, so as to retain the original code prefixes. The definite changes follow: Black Twig has been changed from AD to AK, and Rhode Island Greening has been changed from EB to IJ.

The list is being printed now to give an opportunity for any one to suggest desirable changes or additions before the new code book is printed:

AC Alexander	IB Spy (Northern Spy)
AD Arkansas Black	ID Northwestern Greening
AF Astrachan (Red Astrachan)	IF Ortleby
AG Baldwin	IG Rambo
AH Belleflower (Yellow Belleflower)	IJ Rhode Island Greening
AJ Ben Davis	IM Rome (Rome Beauty)
AK Black Twig (Mammoth Black Twig)	IN Roxbury (Roxbury Russet)
(Arkansas)	IQ Smokehouse
AM Canada Red (Steele's Red)	IS Snow (Fameuse)
AR Delicious	IT Spitzenberg
AS Duchess (Oldenburg)	IV Stayman (Stayman Winesap)
AT Early Harvest (Early June)	IW Stark
AV Fall Pippin	IK Sutton (Sutton Beauty)
AW Gano	IX Tolman (Tolman Sweet)
AX Geniton (Ralls)	OB Twenty Ounce
AY Gravenstein	OD Wealthy
ED Grimes (Grimes Golden)	OF Willow Twig
EG Hubbardston (Nonesuch)	OG Winesap
EJ Jonathan	OH Winter Banana
EK King (Tompkins King)	OJ White Winter Pearmain
EM King David	OK Wolf River
EN Lawver (Delaware Red)	OL Williams (Williams Red)
EQ Limbertwig	OM Yellow Newtown (Newtown) (Albermarle Pippin)
ET Maiden Blush	
EV McIntosh	ON Yellow Transparent
EW Missouri Pippin	OS York (York Imperial)
	OT Wagener

7b. SALES OF CELERY FROM STORAGE.

Mr. Scruggs suggests that reports regarding the movement of celery out of local storage in various markets, when of an appreciable quantity, will be valuable to growers and shippers in Florida. We have no information as to the extent which celery is stored in various markets and, therefore, cannot make any definite suggestions regarding the handling of this information, but Florida shippers and growers naturally are interested in knowing the competition their stock must meet from stock moving out of storage.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions* Celery*	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 15* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 8 Mar. 1* Jan. 12*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples #	Sept. 17	Mar. 15
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions#*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	April 1	May 10
HAMMOND, LA.	802	Unassigned	Berries	April 5	May 3
ASHERION, TEXAS	804	Unassigned	Onions	April 10	May 20

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.
 **State Dept. cooperating.
 # Tri-weekly

R. M. Peterson)
 G. A. DeHaven) to Florida for
 J. D. Evers) inspection work.
 R. H. Lamb)
 S. W. Russell, assisting in Atlanta office.
 W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. FILLERS FOR ARMORED THERMOMETERS.

Mr. Hackleman has just received a supply of refills for armored thermometers. If any Inspectors who desire to use this kind have empty cases, they should be sent to Mr. Hackleman for filling. If you have empty cases or parts for cases for either armored or unarmored types, which you are not using, these should be sent in to the New York office, where the various parts may be used in assembling complete thermometers.

2c. RULING ON BROKEN LEAVES AND POORLY-TRIMMED HEADS OF ICEBERG LETTUCE.

Question has recently been raised in the Imperial Valley as to the number of heads showing broken leaves - particularly broken midribs - permissible in U. S. Grade No. 1.

Mr. Samson, of the Grades and Standards Project, wired Mr. Allewelt to the effect that broken midribs, if not visible externally, should be ignored. If visible externally, heads showing not more than one broken midrib may be considered up to grade.

A hard and fast line, however, cannot be drawn, especially in receiving markets where condition is generally more important than any single grade defect. Receiving-point Inspectors should not throw any lot out of grade on account of this defect, unless a number of the head leaves show broken midribs and consequent decay or the appearance of the heads is affected to an extent which would make it objectionable commercially.

3c. INSPECTIONS INCREASING IN SOUTH TEXAS.

J. Harold Hoover wrote as follows in a letter of February 24:-

"Last week was our heaviest week since the deal started, and 160 cars were handled. Inspectors are now working at San Benito, La Feria, Mercedes, Weslaco, Donna and Alamo. We expect to begin work next week at Mission, San Juan and Pharr, and this probably will be all of the points that will be covered this year. It is possible that Brownsville will want the service a little later, but at Harlingen we have never been able to line up the shippers. The heavy cabbage movement has just now begun, and the beet and carrot movement is somewhat lighter, due to poor markets and to a shortage of stock that is ready for harvest. There will be another heavy movement of beets and carrots in a week or ten days. As a rule the cabbage is a little better than usual, with the exception of a few points where the stock is large and light-weight and showing some discoloration and slight decay caused by bad weather conditions. The quality of the beets and carrots is very good. Some lettuce has moved during the last two weeks, mostly in mixed cars; also probably 12 or 15 straight cars by express. The quality is only fair, a large percentage being a little soft for No. 1 stock, and we have been inspecting it for condition only. Turnips have been in good demand, and some very fine stock has been shipped. During the next three or four weeks the work will be quite heavy, but the peak probably will be reached about March 20, and after that date will fall off rapidly. Spring crops of tomatoes and beans will be very light, and I do not think there will be any demand for the service after the heavy cabbage movement is over."

4c. A DAY IN CHICAGO STOCKYARDS STORAGE PLANTS.

Having read the recent letters, giving interesting experiences of Inspectors in other parts of the country, E. J. Maynard, of the Chicago staff, has submitted an equally good letter regarding his inspection work in the cold storage plants, located in Chicago stockyards. Space does not permit quoting the letter in full, but it is summarized below. Mr. Maynard's title for this story is "A Perfect Day in the Stockyards":-

Work was heavy, and the Chicago Inspectors were busy writing certificate before 9 A.M. Shortly after 9 o'clock, Mr. Maynard and another man were assigned a day's work, inspecting apples at seven cold storage plants in the stockyards. These are very old buildings and not at all convenient. After several miles' drive in their "Rolls Ruff," the first stop was at Armour's House No. 87, where the U. S. Cold Storage Company has rented space. This is the first time that apples have been stored in that house, and it was no easy matter to locate the place; the stockyards cover a square mile. A climb of five stories to the apple room, aided by flashlights, resulted in the finding of a large padlock on the door. Down the stairs again to the watchman,- only to be informed that the key had to be obtained from a man in House No. 40, two blocks away. Back to the fifth floor of No. 87, and then the inspection of a car of apples which contained three varieties and three grades of each variety. By hard work, the job was finished at 11:40.

Reaching the street, the Inspectors jumped into their "trusty (I mean rusty) flivver," and quickly drew up in front of "The Famous Delmonico's Stockyards Restaurant." The place was already crowded, but Mr. Maynard finally found an empty stool between two big black negroes. A "special plate lunch" was the best the place could afford, and each Inspector was soon busy eating. Although it was 15° below zero outside, the fresh (?) stockyards air seemed mighty good, compared with the stale air in crowded Delmonico's. Shortly before noon, each man had paid his 29¢ and they were on their way. A short drive to the Hammond Cold Storage, where Government Inspectors are always welcomed. Given a key and granted permission to work through the noon hour, three lots of apples in three separate buildings were examined. All were well-packed Extra Fancy Delicious, and this job was completed by 2 P.M. Next came the North American Provision Company plant at 44th and Cook Streets, where one lot of Fancy Rome Beautys was inspected. This room was dark, and Mr. Maynard was using his flashlight to look for sizes, when he stepped in a hole where the water went over his shoe tops. Laying down the flashlight, to carry some boxes of apples about 150 feet to the electric light, Mr. Maynard found his flashlight gone when he returned!

The next car of apples was at Morris & Company's Hog House. Here some orchard-run Winesaps, in good condition, were subjected to examination. Shortly after 3 o'clock, the Ashland Cold Storage was reached. An elevator took our men to the seventh floor, where orchard-run Romes were piled 10 layers high, and a ladder had to be used to get some of the packages down. Finished about 4 P.M., the elevator man had gone, and Inspectors had to hike down. One more lot had been promised for that day; so the next trip was to the Anglo American Cold Storage. The apples were located in the basement of House C-2. We will let Mr. Maynard finish this story in his own words:-

"Some one else had the keys out, but we were told to go to the freight elevator on the platform, step in, and holler 'Basement' or 'Hole,' and they would let us down. These elevators, by the way, are an old type, operated by a man on the top floor of the building, and you must have good lungs to make

(Continued over)

him hear. We got in the storage room all right, laid our tools down, and started to get out some boxes, when the lights went out! We realized it was quitting time (4:30) and that we were locked in! Crying around in the dark, we eventually found our remaining flashlight, which had grown dim from constant use all day. We went the rounds of the building but, alas! the doors were all locked on the outside, so we couldn't break a lock. Then we thought of the elevator shaft. The elevator was at the platform, half way between the basement and the first floor, and we managed to climb up, pushed the doors open, and escaped to the street and freedom! It was mighty lucky for the negro, who locked us in, that he had already made his escape. It was now dark and, when we got over to the flivver, found a flat tire which had to be changed, and thus we came to the end of 'A Perfect Day.'"

5c. INSPECTIONS AT WINTER HAVEN, FLA.

Inspections of citrus at Winter Haven started February 13, while practically all work at Lakeland and Plant City has stopped temporarily. Mr. Strauss states that at the present time about seven cars a day are being inspected, with all indications that the number will be increased in the near future. B. C. Tiffany and A. B. Chiles are assisting Mr. Strauss at Winter Haven.

6c. CONDITIONS AT HOMESTEAD, FLA.

A. E. Mercker, who recently visited sections along the East Coast, wrote the following concerning conditions at Homestead:

"The tomato movement has not hit its real stride yet and probably won't for another month. The rains did more damage than was at first realized, and cut down the yield to a marked extent. This deal will always be on the ragged edge, as everything is dependent on the weather. If we have fair weather, things will go well; if we have rain, everybody may as well pack up and move elsewhere."

7c. VEGETABLE MOVEMENT AT FT. MYERS, FLA.

Mr. Hooper writes that the movement of vegetables is expected to start in fairly heavy volume on about March 1. This is about one month later than what was estimated. Already 200 inspections have been made out of Ft. Myers.

8c. GRADES ON STRING BEANS.

During his recent trip along the East Coast of Florida, Mr. Conklin spent a few days at Pompano, one of the largest bean sections, investigating requirements for string bean grades. In the near future it is expected that specifications will be published for these grades.

9c. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 23:

Page 117 - Special paragraph on Potatoes in weekly review.

118 - New York Apple Shipments Light, - by C. L. Brown.

119 - New York State Vegetables, - C. L. Brown.

123 - Marketing of Queensland Fruit.

125 - Wisconsin Cabbage Season Nearly Completed, - by W. H. Hall.

10c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPMENT POINTS:

Inspections made during the period February 1 to 15 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Auburndale.....	47	Citrus.....	102
Clearwater.....	51	Grapefruit.....	100
Fort Myers.....	57	Mixed Citrus.....	11
Garfield.....	24	Tangerines.....	10
Homestead.....	199	Total.....	229
Leesburg.....	8	Celery.....	426
Orlando.....	33	Tomatoes.....	199
Palmetto.....	187	Cabbage.....	17
Sanford.....	247	Mixed Vegetables.....	17
Winter Garden.....	25	Peppers.....	1
Winter Haven.....	11	Total.....	660
Total.....	889	GRAND TOTAL.....	889

In the Division Letter for February 14, Par. 9c, inspections for the period November 12 to January 31 were tabulated. Total to the end of January was given as 2,345 cars. By adding the 889 cars inspected from February 1 to 15, the grand total is 3,234 cars to the middle of February. Minor discrepancies evidently have crept into our tabulations, as the Florida News Letter gives the grand total as 3,226 cars, a difference of 8. Future totals, therefore, will be based on the figure 3,226. Daily average inspections during the last half of January were 71 cars, and the first half of February 68 cars. Total vegetable inspections since the beginning of this service are 2,017, and total citrus fruits are 1,209.

11c. KEEPING COLLECTIONS UP TO DATE.

Are you following up unpaid fee bills? Our experience has shown that there is no difficulty in keeping payments for inspections up to date, if the Inspector gives his personal attention to this matter and does not let any account become old.

Follow the regular procedure in sending out your statements. The fee bill should go with the certificate. If not paid in two weeks, send another statement. If not paid in two weeks more, send a third statement. If this is unsuccessful, advise that the account will be referred to Washington in case payment is not received within two weeks. Send in bills which you have been unable to collect by the above procedure. If the firm is located in your market, make a telephone or personal call after sending the second statement.

Railroads sometimes require longer time than the above for paying their bills, and should be excepted from this procedure when the Inspector knows that a definite policy is followed by the carriers in paying their bills.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Leaving Washington on Sunday, Mr. Stillwell expects to go on a month's trip to points in the South and Middle West, in the interest of the market reporting work. He will visit representatives of this Division and will confer with State officials, growers and shippers regarding the market news program. Stops will be made at Marion, N.C.; Charleston, S.C.; Atlanta and Macon, Ga.; Jacksonville, Sanford and Orlando, Fla.; Mobile, Ala.; Crystal Springs, Miss.; Hammond and New Orleans, La.; Austin and Fort Worth, Texas; Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo. At Macon, Mr. Stillwell will confer with officials of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange regarding market news and standardization work.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Mr. Samson expects to attend a meeting of the New York Vegetable Growers' Association, at Syracuse, on March 4. He will discuss especially the status and prospects of the lettuce industry in New York State. Wm. E. Lewis has prepared a number of large charts on lettuce production, shipments, etc., which Mr. Samson will use to illustrate his talk.

Mr. Sherman will be at Tifton, Ga., this Saturday, attending the convention of the Melon Distributors' Association. Next week, he may have to go to Mobile and other points in Alabama, in connection with proposed shipping-point inspection work in that State.

Robert Bier, in general charge of the shipping-point inspection work in Florida, accompanied Dr. Taylor and Mr. Sherman on part of their trip through southern Florida last week. Dr. Taylor is making his headquarters at Homestead, Fla., for a short period.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., spent the past two weeks on a tour of points along the East Coast of Florida, investigating the grading and standardization of vegetables in that district. Mr. Mercker also visited this territory, and returned to Orlando on Saturday evening, with Mr. Conklin.

Nathaniel Farnworth, of Palmetto, and O. G. Strauss, of the Lakeland office, served as judges at the Manatee County Fair, held at Bradentown, Fla., last week.

S. H. Green, Inspector in Cleveland, substituted for R. C. Rose, at Cincinnati, a few days, while the latter was on sick leave.

On account of the death of his father at Columbus, Ohio, on Tuesday, W.H. Mosier, in charge of the Waupaca field station, was obliged to go to Columbus for a few days. He will return to duty by Monday.

Having completed his studies of the terminal auction companies, C. W. Hauck returned to the Washington office this morning. En route from Chicago, Mr. Hauck stopped for a short while in Pittsburgh.

F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago staff, was in Dubuque, Iowa, yesterday, handling some reinspections in that city.

F. M. Lyle went from New Haven, Conn., to Boston this week, to assist with the rush of inspection work. W. F. Plummer, Navy Inspector, has returned to duty in Boston, and Herbert Graff, his substitute, is again at his headquarters in New York City.

For the present, J. Wm. Park has his desk in Mr. Blair's office, Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates. Mr. Park is serving as contact man between the Fruit and Vegetable Division and Crop Estimates, to bring to bear on the crop reporting work on truck crops and, later, fruits all resources available in our Division, whether in the Washington office or in market or field stations.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 10

March 7, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. VERY SERIOUS CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

The following supplementary letter of February 26, from H. A. Harris, tells of the serious situation confronting everybody in southern California, due to lack of rain and mountain snows this season:

"I was through the San Fernando Valley last Sunday, investigating the water situation, and find that it is very acute. This Valley ordinarily plants 5,000 to 8,000 acres in potatoes during the period February 15 to March 15, but present indications are that plantings will be less than 1,000 acres.

"As you know, the growers in that section are dependent on the city aqueduct for their water supply, and the lack of rains locally and the subnormal amount of snow in the mountains have caused the city to withhold the use of water for flooding the land so that it may be plowed. As a general thing, the smaller growers have made no attempt to plant potatoes, and they control the bulk of the acreage, with their one to ten-acre fields. The larger growers have cultivated their fields or, in some cases, have been able to plow and are trying to conserve the moisture in the hope that we will have late rains. I did not see any plantings, but am told that a few hundred acres have been planted in the dry ground, hoping that the city will furnish enough water with which to irrigate the crop.

"I asked one of the officials of the City Bureau of Water Works and Supply if they intended to furnish the growers with water enough to grow their crops, in case they were able to plant them without the use of water. He replied that they were making the growers no promises and that any plantings were made entirely at the growers' risk. I understand that the users of water in the San Fernando Valley have an agreement with the city, guaranteeing them a prior right in the use of water, but it would take a court action to enforce any such agreement, and I am sure that they are not financially able individually nor have they any organization to bring such action collectively.

"Consequently, there will be very few potatoes planted, unless we have rains in excess of three or four inches during the next two or three weeks. It is unsafe to plant potatoes in that section much after March 15, on account of ravages of the tuber moth in late summer. The total rainfall in Los Angeles to date this season, according to the Weather Bureau, is 1.82 inches, compared with an average rainfall to date of 10.77 inches and an average total for the season of 15.64 inches. Last year was below normal, as rainfall to this date was 7.28 inches.

"I have no direct information, but understand that plantings in Kern County will be nearly as heavy as last year. There are supposed to be around 1,000 acres in San Diego County and usually there are about 1,000 acres planted around Riverside and San Bernardino. There is,

(Page 101)

- Continued over -

however, an actual shortage of water in all southern districts and, in fact, over all of the State south of San Francisco and the Delta. Even those sections that depend on wells report that the water level is from five to ten feet below normal at this time of the year. Even if these wells do not go dry entirely, the lowering of the water level requires additional power for pumping and, on account of the light snowfall in the mountains, there is a prospective shortage of power. I am reliably informed that the Southern California Edison Company, one of the largest producers of power in the State, has ordered three large units for producing power from oil engines. They felt that the situation was so acute that they had the first unit shipped by express at an enormous transportation expense.

"I have spoken of potatoes because they should be planted immediately and the grower must decide at once whether he will gamble against rain in buying his seed. Tomatoes will be curtailed by continued drought, but they are not planted for 30 days yet and, besides, they require less water than potatoes. The Navel orange crop is pretty well made now, but generous rains would increase sizes so that the heavy percentage of small unmarketable oranges now on the trees would be lowered. The Valencia crop will make or fail within the next 45 days, so far as size goes. The spring lettuce crop is mostly all planted and seems to be much less than last year. Deciduous fruits will not make much of a crop, unless we have rains soon. Grapes will suffer least of all, though many vineyards have been planted on more or less unsuitable ground in the past three years and will suffer severely.

"The situation is very serious and is depressing all lines of business, as it is quite problematical how extensive the crop failures may be. Ordinarily, very little rain falls after the first of April, so that, if the drought continues for the next month, we will have in addition to the present lack of moisture a shortage of water and electric power for the summer months. The Imperial Valley alone is assured of a normal water supply, because they draw their water from the Colorado River."

2a. OREGON ONIONS.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, sent the following information under date of February 27:

"It now looks as if a serious loss will be suffered by the Oregon onion growers. There are still large stocks held and there is really no buying price in the territory. Shipments now going are mostly unsold. If you recall the review of Oregon onions I wrote you last fall, there are two distinct crops here, the Lake Labische, which is only a moderate keeper, and the Sherwood onion, which is a long keeper. The Lake Labische crop is supposed to clean up first, but many of them are still left and getting pretty soft. It has been a poor winter for keeping onions. We had only one short spell of cold weather, lasting less than a week. The remainder of the time has been practically free from frost; so the crop as a whole will not have its keeping qualities of ordinary years. The whole crop was put away two or three weeks early last fall, because of exceptional curing weather. I do not think the Sherwood onions are going to pieces very early. But the crop as a whole is in poorer condition than usual and many onions sprouting."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. SEND CORRESPONDENCE AND WIRES TO WASHINGTON.

Just before Mr. Stillwell left on his southern trip, he dictated the following item for inclusion in the Division Letter:

"During my absence from Washington, Mr. Borce will be immediately in charge of the administrative work of the project, and it is desired that all matters pertaining to the work, including assignments, personnel, etc., be referred direct to Washington rather than to me. Routine matters requiring immediate action, if sent to me at some point en route, will have to be referred to Washington before action can be taken."

2b. SPECIAL REPORT FROM MARKET STATIONS.

With this Division Letter is a sample report to be followed by all market station men in furnishing advice as to the collection and distribution of market information at their stations. Full instructions are given, while the sample report itself is explanatory of what is needed. It is written as a guide rather than as an exact report, but the headings and general arrangement should be followed closely.

The following offices are requested to furnish this information: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Fort Worth, Denver, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Portland.

3b. MEXICAN TOMATOES MOVING FREELY.

In the following wire of March 1, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, tells of the active movement of tomatoes from Mexico:-

"Am informed by shippers that 100 cars of Mexican tomatoes are expected to be shipped weekly during March, with possibly 150 cars as peak during the second or third week. Fields damaged by hail are about cleaned up, and future shipments are expected to show improved quality."

4b. APPLE MARKETING PROBLEMS IN NORTHWEST.

The Yakima Valley Traffic and Credit Association, Yakima, Wash., has issued a most interesting report, known as Bulletin No. 547 and dated February 13, 1924. It consists of seven mimeographed pages and is an address delivered at a meeting of the Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association, Wenatchee, on January 18, by W. O. Dow, of the Dow Fruit Company. Mr. Dow spent considerable time studying the apple industry in eastern States and the distribution in eastern markets, and he draws some important conclusions from these investigations as they affect the industry in the Northwest.

This Bulletin No. 547 was issued primarily for members of the Yakima Valley Association, but Mr. Samson, of the Washington office, will endeavor to obtain copies for any interested employees. Applications, therefore, should be addressed to H. W. Samson, with the understanding that he may not be able to fill the orders, in case Yakima organization does not have copies for outside distribution.

5b. BE CAREFUL IN REPORTING MIXED CARS.

On July 1, 1922, Transportation Circular F.&V. No. 12 superseded Transportation Circular No. 108, which provided that mixed cars containing 60% of one commodity should be reported as a solid car of that commodity. Circular F.&V. No. 12 changed those instructions, so that carriers are required to report any cars containing more than one commodity, regardless of percentages, as mixed cars. Market station representatives should be careful to make their arrival reports on the same basis.

6b. MARKET NEWS DISTRIBUTION IN TEXAS.

J. Austen Hunter, in a letter of February 20, tells further of the successful distribution of market reports in the State of Texas:-

"You will be interested to learn that we put across our first market copy to Brownsville today, a complete report on cabbage, beets and carrots. This gives us a 'leased radio service' out of Austin to three points,- Houston, Laredo and Brownsville, all of which are using the information to good advantage through local papers. See enclosed map.

"We also have two newspapers at Austin printing the market news on cabbage and spinach, and with the cooperation of Mr. Gooch on WRAP, Fort Worth, we have that station, as well as WFAA, Dallas; WOAI, San Antonio; WEAY, Houston, and WCM, Austin.

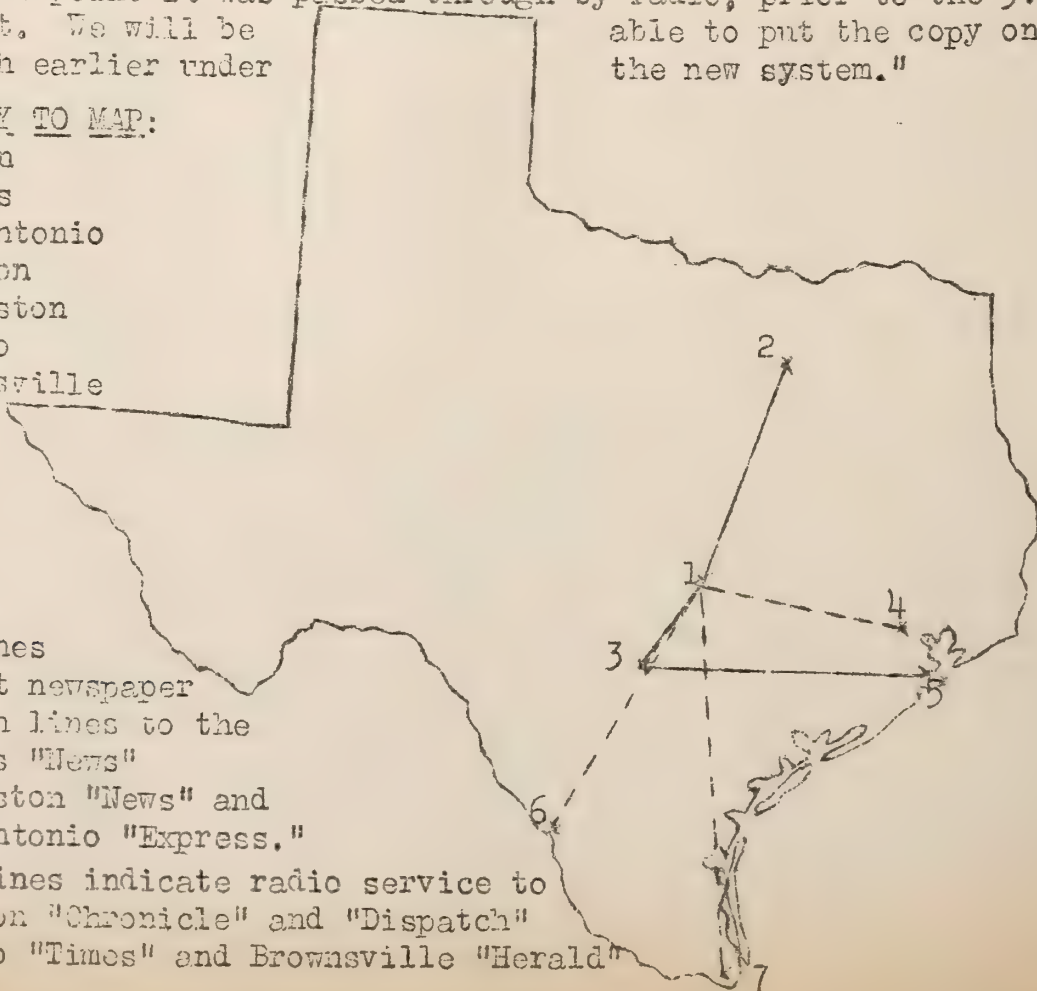
"We use an amateur at Laredo for f.o.b. reporting, but today's Valley f.o.b.'s came through Fort Brown, and we hope to have this regularly. Since it has been in operation this season from the Valley, we have been handling the f.o.b. by special delivery mail to Houston, from which point it was passed through by radio, prior to the 9:15 broadcast. We will be able to put the copy on the wire much earlier under the new system."

KEY TO MAP:

1. Austin
2. Dallas
3. San Antonio
4. Houston
5. Galveston
6. Laredo
7. Brownsville

Solid lines
represent newspaper
telegraph lines to the
Dallas "News"
Galveston "News" and
San Antonio "Express."

Dashed lines indicate radio service to
Houston "Chronicle" and "Dispatch"
Laredo "Times" and Brownsville "Herald"



7b. RADIO REPORTS IN NEW YORK CITY.

The semi-annual report from New York includes the following:

"Effective about the first of December, an arrangement was made with Station WEAJ, of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, to broadcast a brief report on fruits and vegetables and livestock and fresh meats at noon each day, - except Mondays and Saturdays when the station was not operated, - the report on fruits and vegetables giving carlot arrivals, condition of market, and general price ranges on the more important commodities. It was read at the broadcasting station by the technical assistant from our office, who afterward read the livestock report which was delivered here by the Livestock Project by 11:30 each day.

"Toward the end of December, an arrangement was made whereby our fruit and vegetable report was combined with the similar report by the New York State Department of Farms and Markets. Under the present program, our man reads the reports one week and a man from the State Department the next. Information for completing these reports is exchanged by telephone.

"Station WJZ is now broadcasting a short report, furnished by the State Department, at 5:30 p.m. daily, and it is hoped to work a combined report into their schedule. (This arrangement has since been effected. - Editor) Returns from a questionnaire, used in circularizing our mimeographed report list, are yet incomplete, but they show very encouraging results as to the size of our radio audience and also give indication that an audience fully as large or larger would listen in on our reports regularly, if broadcast at 5:30 in the evening."

8b. RESULTS OF CIRCULARIZATION.

In a recent circularization of his mailing list, O. D. Miller, New York office, used a questionnaire to ascertain the relative popularity of various features of the service. About 70% of the letters had been returned, when the following tabulation of results was made:

Relative Value of Features to Subscribers of New York Reports.

Local market conditions and prices	100%
Carlot arrivals	84%
Market information from producing districts	84%
Crop notes from producing districts	78%
Carlot shipments	72%
Weather forecast	65%
Seasonal reviews of N. Y. market on special commodities	57%
Weekly summary of arrivals	54%
Monthly summary of arrivals	49%
Annual summary of arrivals	49%
Terminal f.o.b. auction reports	45%
Passings at Potomac Yards, Edgemoor and Salamanca	41%
Noon radio report	25%
Preference for 5:30 radio report	18%
Information by phone on other markets	7%

The information on passings, while not of value to such a large percentage of the readers, is considered practically indispensable by most of the principal receivers in New York City, many of whom telephone for it regularly. A good interest is manifested in the reports of terminal f.o.b. auctions, considering the short time that these reports have been a feature.

The vote on radio service, while not large, is encouraging, in view of the fact that reports have been broadcast only during the last two months and that they have gone out at noon when it has not been the habit of many persons to use their receiving sets. Returns concerning radio indicate regular listeners to this report as far away as eastern Long Island, Massachusetts, western New York, and southern New Jersey. It is believed that, if a vote on this subject is taken six months from now, the interest in this feature will show an increase of several hundred per cent. On the basis of replies received, Mr. Miller has just completed an arrangement with Station WJZ to accept a report, to be broadcast along with other information of this character which they put on the air at 5:30 p.m.

As classified shortly before circularization, the New York mailing list for the daily miscellaneous report was made up of 1,220 names, of which 482 (or 40%) were classified as producers; 280 (or 23%) as country wholesalers, and 234 (or 19%) as city wholesalers.

Below are a few of the favorable replies received to circularization:-

This reply is from Ontario, Canada: "As you invite remarks about the service, would say that it is, to my mind, very helpful. Growers here depend on my receiving these reports, as they wish information from time to time on the markets in the States. The wonderful organization of the United States Dept. of Agriculture is a great help to growers, cooperative associations and all others interested in production of fruits and vegetables, and the distribution of them."

From a Long Island farmer came this answer: "We find it impossible to farm without your daily report."

A newspaper feature writer said: "Reports especially needed on Mondays and Thursdays by noon, for daily food column."

This answer came from Pleasantville, N.J.: "As market master of two retail markets in Atlantic City, attended by 75 farmers, these reports are essential."

A professor at Syracuse University wrote: "This information is very helpful to me in teaching courses in marketing."

From Lockport, N. Y., came this response: "From my office your reports are used by some 20 shippers. Reports are kept on file day by day annually."

With reference to an evening radio report, one replied: "An after-supper report is the 'cats.'"

The Supt. of Transportation of Gulf Coast Lines, Texas, wrote: "This authentic market information has eliminated 75% of the 'decline in market' damage claims, and is highly appreciated."

From far-off San Francisco these words were received: "As traffic representative for over 100 California fruit and vegetable shippers and Secretary of California Wholesale Potato Dealers Assn., your daily market reports are invaluable."

9b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 1:

Page 133 - Special paragraph on Cabbage in weekly review.

134 - Marketing California Cherries.)

135 - Produce Marketed by Cooperatives.) these articles are from

- Strawberry Sales in Ozark Region.) "Agricultural Cooperation."

B. C. POREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. "MATURE GREEN" NOT "GREEN" TOMATOES.

W. V. Stephens, who is in charge of the tomato inspection work at Homestead, Florida, calls attention to the importance of using the term "mature green" instead of the single word "green", which may be interpreted to mean that the tomatoes were picked in an immature condition. Will all Inspectors take note of this important point and write their tomato certificates accordingly.

2c. WIRE FOR SHIPPING-POINT INFORMATION.

At this season of the year, large quantities of apples are being shipped from storages in the Northwest. It is to be expected that some of this stock will show decay at shipping points. Some of the shipping-point certificates show this condition at the present time. Receiving-point Inspector should not issue condition certificates without knowing what the shipping-point inspection showed. If inspection is requested on a car which is listed on the shipping-point inspection sheets sent out from the Washington office daily, information should be obtained from this office as to the condition at shipping point, before your certificate is issued.

3c. LISTS OF CARS INSPECTED AT SHIPPING POINTS.

On the lists of cars inspected at shipping points in the various States, stars are placed in front of numbers of cars which the certificates show are definitely out of grade. The number sign "#" is placed before the numbers of cars, parts of which are up to grade. The fact that the other numbers listed show no marks means that the lots are either up to grade or that they are not inspected in accordance with definite grade specifications. The absence of any mark before the car number does not indicate high quality of product. It may mean that it is a lot of No. 2 grade. Whenever a question is raised regarding the grade or quality of a lot on which reinspection is requested, a wire should be sent immediately to this office in order to determine the facts as shown on the certificate.

The "#" sign is used only when a definite brand, variety, or lot is declared up to grade, while other parts of the same car are not up to grade. It is not used for certificates which show "Most sacks meet requirements of U. S. Grade No. 1, but many do not meet requirements of this grade on account of defects stated above." A car which is described in this way is marked on the list as not meeting grade requirements.

When wiring to the Washington office for information regarding any car-lot recorded on the shipping-point lists, mention should be made of the date shown on the list on which the number is found. This will aid in finding the certificate in the Washington files.

4c. POPULARITY OF INSPECTION SERVICE IN COLORADO.

E. F. McKune, of the Denver office, advises that one of the largest potato shippers of the State, who did not use the inspection service at the beginning of the season but who uses it very extensively at present, is now a strong advocate of inspection. This shipper said that, before his firm began using the inspection service on potatoes, they lost thousands of dollars, chiefly because their loader misrepresented the stock they had bought.

(The next four items are from the Florida Weekly News Letter.)

5c. LATEST CROP ESTIMATES FOR FLORIDA.

H. A. Marks, Truck Crop Specialist, submitted the following information on the estimated production of Florida crops. With the exception of Sweet Corn, it is most certain that inspections will be made on all the commodities named. These data, therefore, are of interest to all F.&V. men.

NOTE: Some discrepancies exist between these figures and those issued from Washington office under date of March 1. For example, - Washington report says that total cucumber acreage may exceed the 10,337 acres of last season, whereas the report below indicates a total of 7,500 acres. The following estimates, therefore, may be subject to correction:

Watermelons: Total acreage for the State estimated at 20,000 to 22,000 acres, of which 6,000 are planted in the southern part of the State and the remainder north and west of Ocala.

Tomatoes: Approximately 18,500 acres planted along the East Coast up to Vero; 3,500 acres along Lake Okeechobee; 3,500 around Manatee County; 12,000 in Marion County and 6,000 in Sumter County, commonly known as the Ocala Section.

Cucumbers: Approximately 7,500 acres set out in the entire State, 1,500 of which are in the Wauchula section; 1,200 in Winter Garden district; 1,500 to 1,800 in Webster, Bushnell, and Center Hill district; 2,000 in Williston; 500 in Romeo and 500 acres at Ocala. The rest is scattered over the State.

Sweet Corn: Approximately 2,000 acres set out in the State, most of which is planted in Alachua County.

Potatoes: Approximately 30,000 acres set out in the State, heaviest plantings being made in Hastings section, where 19,000 acres are planted. The remaining acreage is scattered from Fort Myers as far north as Escambia.

Peppers: About 1,700 acres in the State, equally divided among Fort Myers, Manatee, and Sanford sections.

6c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS:

Inspections made during the period February 16 to 29 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Clearwater.....	15	Grapefruit.....	61
Fort Myers.....	59	Oranges.....	34
Homestead.....	251	Mixed Citrus.....	23
Leesburg.....	27	Tangerines.....	2
Orlando.....	29	Total.....	120
Palmetto.....	42	Tomatoes.....	251
Sanford.....	168	Celery.....	199
Winter Haven.....	26	Cabbage.....	38
Total.....	617	Mixed Vegetables.....	7
		Lettuce.....	2
		Total.....	497

In the Division Letter for February 28, Par. 10c, inspections for period February 1 to 15 were tabulated. Grand total this season to the middle of February was given as 3,226 cars. By adding the 617 cars inspected during the second half of February, the total to end of February is 3,843 cars. Daily average inspections February 16 to 29 had decreased to 51 cars. Total vegetable inspections since the beginning of the service are 2,514, and total citrus fruits 1,329 cars.

7c. SITUATION AT WAUCHULA, FLA.

Lesley S. Hill, local inspector at the Orlando office, makes the following statement concerning conditions at Wauchula, which he visited the past week:- "The potato acreage shows an increase over that of last season and there will be about 1,000 cars of potatoes, cucumbers, and tomatoes shipped from the Wauchula district. This is approximately 25% less than the estimated production, on account of the heavy storms experienced about a week ago. The movement of potatoes and cucumbers is expected to start about April 1, and that of tomatoes the latter part of April. The Wauchula Truck Growers' Association handles 35% of the tonnage and plans to have inspections made on the total output."

8c. SPECIAL CITRUS REPORT.

The following report was released by Samuel T. Fleming, Agricultural Statistician, Gainesville, Florida, on March 3, and contains the latest estimates on citrus in that State:

"There are 7,700,000 boxes of citrus fruit on the trees to be shipped during the balance of the present season. About 12,300,000 boxes were shipped to February 25. Last season, to the same date, 11,200,000 boxes had been shipped, and 5,700,000 boxes were marketed during the rest of the season.

"The movement of fruit to February 25 is below normal expectation for oranges, and quite a percentage of the mid-season crop is on the trees instead of in the markets. Tangerines have moved about as expected and but little of that crop remains to be shipped. Grapefruit movement has been normal, slightly faster than normal in fact, and there is a prospect that the supply will be light for the late-season demands.

"The loss from drops is not materially greater than usual, although a few sections sustained heavy losses, and a general heavy loss from this source is apt to result from the checked movement of mid-season fruit.

"For the crop remaining on trees, oranges are divided between mid-season fruit which is ready to move and late-season varieties which will not move until much later in the season. The grapefruit crop remaining to be shipped will likely reach 3,050,000 boxes, if the drop for the rest of the season does not exceed its usual volume.

"Present indications are that the grapefruit crop will fall slightly under our 8,000,000 box estimate, while oranges, including tangerines, will exceed our early estimate of 12,000,000 boxes by a small count. This figure will not be reached for oranges, however, if the drop of mid-season fruit becomes abnormally heavy."

9c. POTATO STOCKS REMAINING IN COLORADO.

According to the Weekly News Letter of the Colorado Inspection Service, it is estimated by those closely in touch with the situation that there are between 2,000 and 2,500 cars/^{of}marketable potatoes yet to be moved from that State: The Greeley district has more than any other one section.

F. G. ROBE,
Specialist in Inspection.

THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING DIVISION LETTERS EVER PUBLISHED.

Better read every word of it.

STANDARDIZATION WORK

1d. PIEAPPLE SITUATION IN FLORIDA.

On February 26, Mr. Conklin wrote a very interesting letter regarding pineapples in Florida. It is well worth reading:-

"Last week I made a trip down the East Coast of Florida, and stopped in St. Lucie and Palm Beach counties, to interview pineapple growers and investigate the possibilities of a set of U.S. grades for this crop. The growers have recently organized a cooperative association and are interested in U.S. grades and Government inspection.

"The pineapple industry in Florida was quite scattered and extensive until 1917, when a heavy freeze completely destroyed a large part of the acreage. Since then, plantings have been restricted to a narrow strip of territory along the East Coast in St. Lucie and Palm Beach counties, extending from Vero to Yamato and centering around Fort Pierce, Stuart and Delray. Planting is now on the increase, and there are now about 100 growers raising the crop. Fields vary in size from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 400 acres, with most around 5 to 10 acres. A recent survey showed that there are 1190 acres planted, of which about 925 will bear this season and 265 come in next year.

"A few nine-year old fields, which withstood the freeze, are still bearing well, but most of the old fields are not over 4 to 5 years. It takes two years to get a bearing field. Slips which grow at the base of the fruit are left attached to the parent plant until about August and are then removed and used to set a new field. These will produce fruit in 20 to 24 months. Suckers, which grow at the base of the plant, are left attached and produce the following season's fruit. They are never used to set new fields in this district.

"The Red Spanish is the only variety grown. A plant ordinarily matures its fruit at the same time every year, but the freeze of 1917 disarranged the fruiting date of fields which were not destroyed; so a few pineapples are picked during nearly every month of the year. However, the regular shipping season starts about May 10 and lasts until July 10, with the heaviest period between June 1 and 15.

"The cooperative organization recently formed includes most of the pineapple growers. It is called the Florida Pineapple Growers' Association, and consists of three local units at Ft. Pierce, Stuart and Delray respectively. The officers are J. S. Schrader, Delray, Pres.; James H. Williams, Ft. Pierce, Vice Pres.; and J. A. Youngblood, Stuart, Sec. & Treas. They estimate the shipments by association members for this season as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Crates</u>	<u>Approx. cars</u>
Delray	25,000	85
Stuart	50,000	166
Ft. Pierce	8,000	26
Total	83,000	277

"The growers are interested in putting up a standard pack and having shipping-point inspection. The largest interests in the section, The Florida Growers, Inc., who control about 500 acres, have a new grading and sizing machine, made by the Skinner Co. This is the first pineapple-sizer used on the East Coast. It consists of a roller conveyor, grader belt, which elevates the fruit to two six-inch, canvas, diverging belts, set at an angle of about

45 degrees, so as to form a trough. The pineapples are carried along these belts, crown end last, until the opening between the belts is large enough for them to fall through into the proper packing bin. The man who does the grading on the roller conveyor also watches the fruit, to see that they do not go onto the sizer with the crown ahead. Trials made with the machine have proved very satisfactory. Probably most of the pineapples loaded at Stuart will be packed over it. One of the largest growers at Delray also has ordered one of the machines.

"There seems to be need for only one commercial grade of pineapples, with a second cull grade. It is important that fruit be well formed. This includes the crown, which should be single and straight, and the fruit itself, which should not be lopsided. All fruit from old fields has a tendency to be sunburned, and this is one of the most important defects affecting grade. The next most important blemish is what is called 'plugging.' In pulling the pine from the plant, a hole often is made in the base of the fruit. This makes the fruit very susceptible to decay. The term 'plugging' came from the practice of some growers plugging up these holes, so that buyers would not notice them. Growers have tried parafining over these holes and report that, by thus keeping out the air, the pineapples carry well. All fruit showing holes in the base should be excluded from the grade as mechanically injured. It is common knowledge that pineapples, when packed wet, will not carry, and during rainy periods the pineapples should be left to dry, if they are to meet the grades."

2d. GRADES PROPOSED FOR STRING BEANS.

Writing from Orlando, Fla., on February 25, E. E. Conklin, Jr., submitted tentative grades for string beans. Part of his letter is quoted below:-

"While on the East Coast last week, I spent some time at Pompano, working on string bean grades, and am enclosing a set of tentative grades. This section is very heavy in the production of green beans, so perhaps some of these specifications might not fit wax beans. Growers and operators in this district are not interested in using a set of standard grades, but these specifications cover what they consider the requirements for such grades.

"Growers have the beans picked on contract, brought to a shed at the side of the field, dumped upon a canvas sloping table and, from there, packed into 28-qt. hampers. Often the old, coarse, spotted beans and leaves and stems are sorted out. However, this varies with different growers. The packed hampers are hauled to the station and sold for cash to track buyers, who either load cars or ship express. Hampers are opened and offers made according to quality.

"Prices vary widely with quality; for example, one day last week farmers were paid \$4.50 per hamper for the best young tender beans, while others not quite so young brought \$3-\$3.50 and some coarse beans, showing beans in the pods, brought \$2.50. One large grower said his beans at \$3.50 per hamper were netting him more than the growers who were getting the top price, because he delayed picking a few days and greatly increased his volume. Some growers, however, wait too long and their beans get so old and tough that they receive the extremely low prices, and so do not realize well on the crop. This fact and because growers receive cash on track make the growers little interested in grades. The cash buyers consign or sell joint-account a large part of the stock.

(continued over)

"It is estimated that the section around Pompano has 4,000 to 5,000 acres of string beans planted this season. Four growers each have 200 to 400 acres, while the rest of the acreage is divided among 75 to 100 growers, who have 5 to 50 acres each. Less than 50 acres are wax beans and the balance green. Of this, about 65% of the acreage is Black Valentine variety and the remainder Refugee. Shipments started December 1, and will continue until about May 10. Last season, 158 cars left this point, and it is estimated that about the same amount will be shipped this season. About 70% of the crop moves in l.c.l. lots and is not included in this figure.

"Three grades are needed for beans. The first grade should include young, tender beans, clean, bright and not spotted. The second grade should include beans which may be old, tough and stringy, slightly dirty, or dull, but free of spots. This grade will include a wide variety of lots and rightly so. The third grade is a cull one, to take care of lots badly spotted.

"It is desirable that lots be 'reasonably uniform,' because it adds greatly to their appearance. A lot of beans may be slightly past their prime, but, if no young tender beans are mixed in the lot, they may sell for nearly as much as young beans which are smaller, especially in the Middle West, where large pods are desired. It is common practice for the growers to pick out the large, old pods."

3d. APPLE SITUATION IN NORTHWEST.

The following comments were received in a recent letter from an apple shipper in the State of Washington:

"The movement of apples out of Yakima and Wenatchee since the first of January has been unusually heavy, but of course prices have been low. The demand for Winesaps came earlier than usual, and Delicious have been doing well. Romes and other varieties have been slow and had to be forced at a sacrifice. The market on Winesaps is firm here, due to the heavy movement, - better than East. The South and Middle West have been buying freely. If the weather holds cool, it looks like a good clean-up here, and the advance in price will cover the storage charges at least. Canada is about cleaned up and will buy quite a few cars during the next two months. Altogether, we feel somewhat encouraged, and are hoping to get out with a little profit at the end of the season. Weather conditions have been good and common storage is cleaning up fast."

4d. IN FEBRUARY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

It was impossible to issue the February Supplement to "Crops and Markets" until Wednesday, March 5.

In addition to the usual monthly farm prices of various products and the production tables for several lines, attention of F. & V. employees is called particularly to the following items:-

- Page 51 - Stocks of Potatoes on Hand January 1, by States.
- 55 - Total value of fruits and of vegetables for year 1923.
- 63 - February 1 report of Cold Storage Holdings of Apples and Lemons.
- 64 - Filler on New Jersey Potatoes trucked into Philadelphia.
- 68 - Carlot Shipments for December, by States.
- 69 - Half of Michigan's Potatoes Marketed, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
 - Shipments of Citrus Fruits for December and January,
 - Filler on marketing methods in the box apple region.
- 70 - Carlot Shipments for January, by States.
- 71 - Honey Prospects Variable, but Generally Good. (monthly review)
 - Farmers' Stocks of Peanuts Now Light. (monthly review)

5d. CELERY GRADES IN OREGON.

In response to Par. 3d in Division Letter of February 21, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, wrote this letter of February 26:-

"I certainly endorse the plan to control the length of the edible portion of the stalk in U. S. No. 1 grade. Just last week a car was rejected in Portland solely because the stock was short; I was called upon for an inspection, and evidence was gathered by the shipper by photograph and other means to back up a law suit. Personally, I felt that the receiver had a just grievance against the stock, but upon examination I was able to put out of grade only the six-dozen size because of the open and pithy condition of the bunches. I stated on the certificate that the lower joint of the stalks ranged from 4 to 6 inches. I do not know just what length should be considered No. 1, but the grades are entirely too indefinite as they are and I imagine about 6 inches should be the minimum. The trade does not consider that short stuff as No. 1, and we can not convince them that it is.

"I have been considerably bothered by the lack of heart formation in some shipments. Some of the California stock this year has been notably free from the part that is really most desirable, but at the same time the stalks had a good outward appearance."

6d. INVESTIGATION OF ONION GRADES IN COLORADO.

The following letter of February 27 came from E. F. McKune, at Denver:

"I have now completed onion grade investigations in the Greeley district and Western Slope district, and will investigate the Arkansas Valley district within a few days. In making these investigations I used your suggested grades - the ones where size is separated from quality and condition.

"Whenever I found one or more interested onion men, we discussed the present onion grades and, incidentally, the matter of new grades was brought up. If a sack of onions was available, the men were asked to select what they considered small, medium, and large onions. These were then measured for size, with the following results: in practically every case these men considered small onions to range from $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to $1\frac{3}{4}$ "; medium, from $1\frac{3}{4}$ " to $2\frac{1}{4}$ "; large, $2\frac{1}{4}$ " and up. There was no objection to having an extra large size.

"I was not able to convince the largest shipper of onions in the State, that grade and size should be separated. His opinion was that the minimum for U. S. No. 1 onions should be $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", and that we should do away with the present Medium, leaving the present Large as it is, and, therefore, calling the grades U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 1 Large.

"My personal opinion is that the grades which you suggest are entirely applicable to Colorado conditions, with the exception of the minimum size for Small. An $1\frac{1}{4}$ " onion can hardly be termed a commercial onion, unless it is used as a boiler.

"The matter of skinned or bald onions was discussed in each case. Offhand, the majority were in favor of eliminating bald onions. However, as soon as they realized that peeling or loosening of the outer skin was a condition liable to develop in transit, they immediately reversed their decision, and I am afraid that for the present at least we will not be able to exclude skinned or partly skinned onions in our grades."

"The Delta, Olathe, and Montrose districts plan to put out approximately 3,000 acres during this coming season, an increase of nearly 40 per cent over the past year."

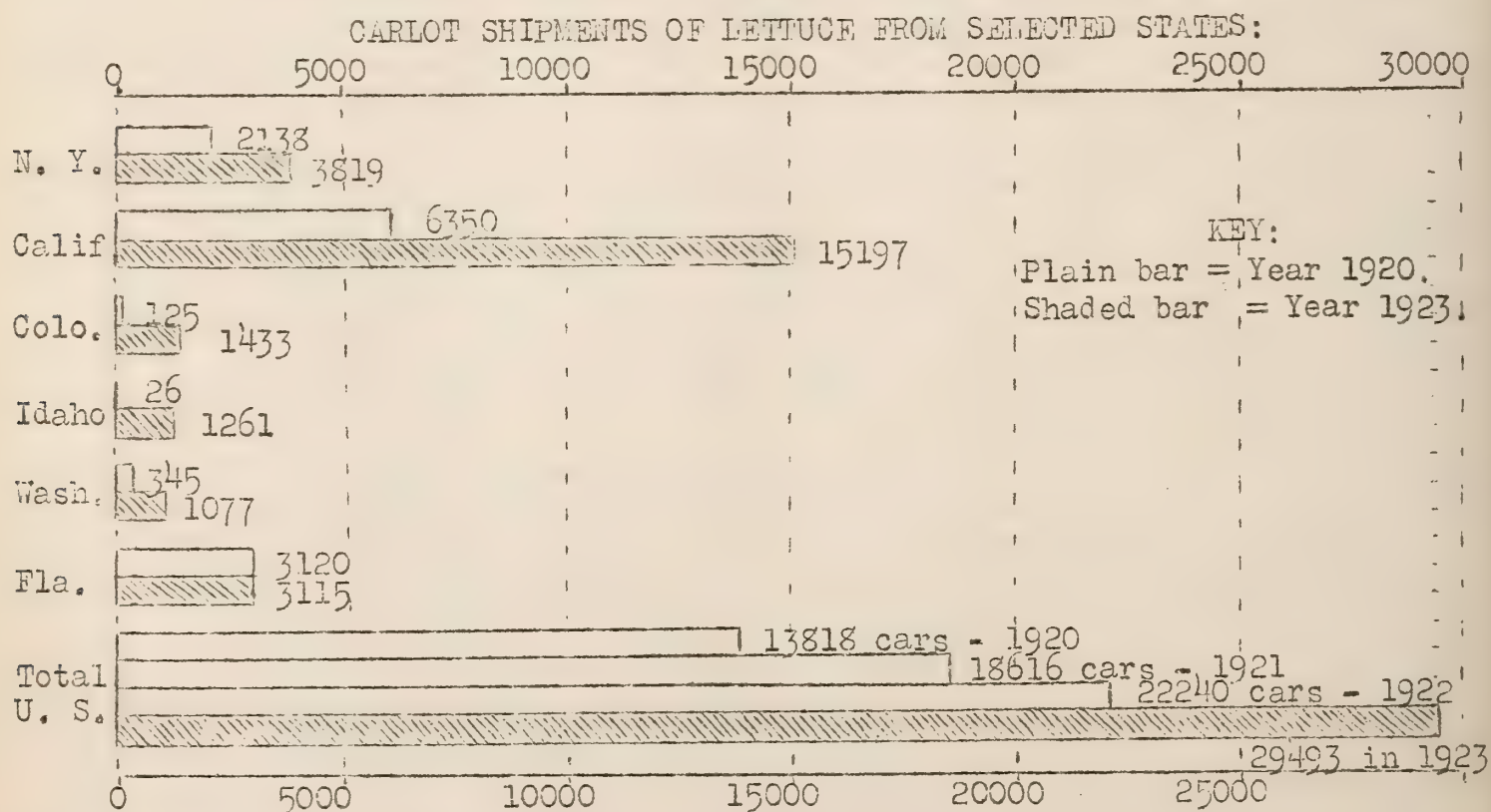
7a. LETTUCE SITUATION IN NEW YORK STATE.

At a meeting of the New York Vegetable Growers' Association, held at Syracuse University on Tuesday, it developed that the truck growers of western New York had suffered financial reverses during the past season and that they keenly realize the lack of standardization of their products. Mr. Samson, who attended this meeting and discussed particularly the lettuce industry, reports that there is an apparent desire to improve conditions and that much interest was manifested in the Federal grades for lettuce. A unanimous vote was recorded in favor of the adoption of these grades by the truck growers as a standard for western New York, and shipping-point inspection of lettuce and other products was endorsed after Mr. Samson had presented this phase of the situation. Attendance at the meeting possibly totaled 150.

In order to compare the growth of the lettuce industry in New York State with the increase made in competing sections, Mr. Samson displayed a number of convincing graphs or charts. Carlot shipments of this vegetable in 1923 showed the following percentage increases over the shipments of 1920:

	Increase		Increase
New York.....	79%	Colorado.....	1046%
California.....	139%	Idaho.....	4750%
Washington.....	212%	Florida.....	none
Total U.S. shipments.... 113% increase.			

Below is a reproduction of one of the charts used at this Syracuse meeting:-

8d. WATERMELON GRADES ENDORSED.

The Melon Distributors' Association, at its recent convention, Tifton, Ga., approved the proposed Federal grades for watermelons, with minor reservations. Inauguration of shipping-point inspection of melons also was endorsed.

H. F. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:-

Mr. Sherman has returned to his desk, after his recent trip South. He reports that about 7,000 cars, or 70% of the expected total shipments of peaches from Georgia, have been lined up for inspection at shipping points.

R. C. Butner, who has been working on a revision of the Inspectors' Handbook, expects to leave Washington this Sunday. He will visit offices in the following cities, en route to his headquarters at Chicago: Cincinnati, Monday; Columbus, Tuesday; Cleveland, Wednesday; Detroit, Thursday; arriving in Chicago by Friday.

Last week's issue of the B.A.E. News, on pages 1 and 2, carried a complete statement as to the appropriations for work of this Bureau for next fiscal year, as presented to the House of Representatives by the Committee on Appropriations.

George E. Prince will leave Spokane, Wash., about March 10, for Idaho Falls, where he will relieve A. E. Prugh shortly afterward. Mr. Prugh is to go to Texas, to conduct the news service on onions at Laredo. En route from Spokane, Mr. Prince will visit a number of shipping points in Idaho.

Three days of this week are being spent by F. M. Patton on a trip to Philadelphia, Wilmington and New York. At the first two points, Mr. Patton will confer with railroad officials regarding shipment reports, and in New York he will improve arrangements with certain roads for reports of passings.

L. C. Archer, cooperative inspector at Grand Junction, Colo., has gone to the Eagle-Carbondale district to collect rejection data from shippers in that territory. He will then go to Monte Vista section in this work.

Robert Bier accompanied Mr. Sherman to the convention of the Melon Distributors' Association, at Tifton, Ga., last week, where the matter of shipping-point inspection of watermelons was presented. There is every indication that a considerable tonnage of melons will be offered for inspection.

F. L. Harkey, Chief of the South Carolina Division of Markets, has been visiting the Orlando office and other points in Florida, to arrange for shipping-point inspections in his State this season.

The application of grades and standards for cabbage is being studied by E. E. Conklin, Jr., in the Leesburg district and other cabbage sections of Florida.

B. B. Jones, of the Wisconsin State Dept. of Markets, has spent some time in Washington. Recently, he was taking training in the inspection of hay. Mr. Jones has now returned to Madison. A complete article on the expansion of radio market news reports in Wisconsin appeared in the February 20 issue of "Marketing Activities."

On your list of Inspectors, please change the residence address and phone number of J. J. Gardner, Pittsburgh, to: 159 Amabell Street; phone Lafayette 4340-R.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OPENED DURING 1923:

<u>Location.</u>	<u>Crops Covered.</u>	<u>Period of Operation.</u>
El Centro, Calif.	Lettuce	Jan. 9 - Mar. 31
Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 22 - Apr. 21
Hammond, La.	Strawberries	Mar. 28 - May 14
Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 6 - May 24
Chadbourn, N. C.	Strawberries	Apr. 24 - May 16
Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 24 - May 23
Judsonia, Ark.	Strawberries	May 8 - June 2
Ripley, Tenn.	Strawberries	May 9 - 25
*Charleston, S. C.	Potatoes	May 21 - June 13
Monett, Mo.	Strawberries	May 22 - June 13
Bowling Green, Ky.	Strawberries	May 28 - June 9
Brawley, Calif.	Cantaloupes	May 28 - July 12
Ocala, Fla.	Watermelons	May 29 - June 16
Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 5 - July 28
Elizabeth City, N. C.	Potatoes	June 7 - 27
Crystal Springs, Miss.	Tomatoes	June 7 - 29
Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 11 - July 5
Valdosta, Ga.	Watermelons	June 20 - July 7
Macon, Ga.	Watermelons	July 11 - Aug. 18
Sacramento, Calif.	Pears	July 17 - Sept. 29
" "	Peaches	July 17 - Sept. 29
" "	Plums & Prunes	July 17 - Aug. 4
" "	Grapes	Aug. 6 - Nov. 10
Kearney, Nebr.	Potatoes	July 23 - Sept. 6
Cornelia, Ga.	Peaches	July 30 - Aug. 11
Caldwell, Idaho	Potatoes	Aug. 3 - Sept. 22
Grand Junction, Colo.	Potatoes	Aug. 7 - Oct. 30
" " "	Pears	Aug. 15 - Oct. 4
" " "	Peaches	Aug. 24 - Sept. 19
" " "	Apples	Sept. 20 - Oct. 30
Kennett, Mo.	Watermelons	Aug. 9 - 25
Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Aug. 27 - Oct. 17
" " "	Apples	Aug. 27 - Oct. 17
" " "	Peaches	Sept. 6 - 25
" " "	Potatoes	Sept. 20 - Oct. 17
" " "	Onions	Sept. 20 - Oct. 17
Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 31 - Sept. 27
Rochester, N. Y.	Pears	Sept. 7 - Nov. 3
" " "	Peaches	Sept. 7 - Oct. 13
" " "	Apples	Sept. 10 - Apr. 1
" " "	Potatoes	Sept. 10 - Apr. 1
" " "	Cabbage	Sept. 28 - Mar. 8
" " "	Onions	Sept. 28 - Mar. 1
" " "	Celery	Oct. 15 - Jan. 12
Presque Isle, Maine	Potatoes	Sept. 12 - Apr. 1
Spokane, Wash.	Apples	Sept. 17 - Mar. 15
Waupaca, Wis.	Potatoes	Sept. 17 - Apr. 30
Grand Forks, N. Dak.	Potatoes	Sept. 19 - Feb. 7
Martinsburg, W. Va.	Apples	Sept. 21 - Oct. 31
Idaho Falls, Idaho	Potatoes	Sept. 25 - Apr. 30
Grand Rapids, Mich.	Potatoes	Oct. 19 - Apr. 30
" " "	Apples	Oct. 19 - Nov. 15
" " "	Onions	Oct. 19 - Jan. 30

* No mimeographed reports issued.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 1, NO. 11

March 14, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. RELIEF IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Supplementing his letter of February 26, which appeared on the front page of the last Division Letter, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, sent the following wire on March 6:

"Over one inch rain fell in Southern California first this week and considerable snow in mountains, encouraging and enabling growers to plant limited acreage of lettuce, potatoes and beans."

2a. 1923 UNLOADS IN PHILADELPHIA.

A sixteen-page mimeographed summary of the 1923 unloads in Philadelphia has just been issued by E. R. Biddle. The cover page includes an outline map of the United States, showing the total number of cars received from each State during the year. All but eight States - Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Nevada - shipped fruits or vegetables to Philadelphia, varying from 7,791 cars of California products to only 2 cars from each of four States. Florida ranked next to California, with 7,316 cars; New York was third, with 5,487, and Virginia fourth, with 3,004 cars.

The first set of tables shows the monthly unloads of each of 62 products. For about a dozen leading fruits and vegetables, comparative figures are given for the preceding years. Total 1923 unloads of the 62 products were 39,655 cars. The next set of tables gives details for 1923, indicating the respective States of origin, as well as the monthly unloads from each State. Comparative State and monthly totals are shown for 1922 in the case of a dozen products.

The report concludes with an estimate of receipts by wagon and truck from New Jersey. This table is especially interesting. The totals are shown below:

Estimated Receipts in Philadelphia by Wagon and Truck from New Jersey:

Product.	Total Packages	Equivalent Cars.	Product	Total Packages	Equivalent Cars.
Apples - baskets.....	1,141,460	1,670	Peaches - baskets	1,032,542	1,550
Cabbage - baskets....	308,416	343	Strawberries -crates	44,991	225
Cantaloupes - baskets	376,842	536	Sweet Potatoes-bskts	726,303	1,430
Celery - bunches.....	940,227	140	Potatoes - baskets	703,716	665
Grapes - baskets.....	49,578	70	Tomatoes - baskets	1,116,136	1,594
Onions - baskets.....	94,547	125	TOTAL....		8,348

On the basis of these figures, which represent about half the total receipts from New Jersey, it is concluded that approximately 15,000 carloads of Jersey products were hauled to Philadelphia during the year. In addition to carlot arrivals and the trucked-in stuff from New Jersey, large quantities come in l.c.l. shipments by freight, express and truck from the South, from Pennsylvania and from New York City, so that it is estimated that around 65,000 carloads of fruits and vegetables are handled annually in the Philadelphia market.

This summary of unloads is well worth having.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. POTATO SITUATION IN OREGON.

In R. L. Ringer's letter of February 27, part of which was quoted on page 102 of the last Division Letter, he wrote as follows regarding potatoes:

"The potato deal is following out exactly that review of mine issued last December, which was questioned as you will recall. Oregon potatoes are becoming scarce, and the dealers are chasing one another from ranch to ranch, trying to buy. The Yakima crop must be nearly cleaned up, for of all the cars I have been in this month I have not seen one that would grade No. 1. Furthermore, Idaho potatoes are spreading more toward the coast, and yesterday a car from southern Idaho was unloaded in Portland. I do not recall a year when that ever occurred before/at this season."

2b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 8:

Page 149 - Special paragraph on Potatoes in weekly review.

151 - Oiled Paper for Wrapping Apples.

- Relation of Main-Crop Potato Production to Shipment. (with map)

- Report on the Outlook for Agricultural Production.

152 - Florida Celery Shipments Heavy, - by F. H. Scruggs.

160 - Exports for July 1 to January 31, this season and last, of fresh and dried apples; prunes, apricots and raisins.

3b. MATERIAL FOR "CROPS AND MARKETS."

On the front page of the Division Letter for January 10, men in charge of field stations were requested to submit periodical articles for "Crops and Markets" in time for publication in the Monthly Supplement. It has been found necessary to change this rule, because the issuance of the Monthly Supplements cannot be guaranteed at any fixed date. Field men, therefore, - as well as market station men and inspectors, - are invited to submit appropriate material at their convenience. Articles are desired at least once a month, if not more frequently, and should be sent to Mr. Fiske's section. When as many as four field stories are received in one day, as happened last Monday, it may be necessary to hold some of them over until the following week, because of the very limited space in the regular weekly issues of "Crops and Markets." All articles will be used as promptly as space permits, and in case of delay effort will be made in Washington to bring the stories up to date before publication.

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys.

See Par. 4b,
"Early Lettuce Prospects,"
on Page 123.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage* Onions* Celery*	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 8* Mar. 8* Jan. 12*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes#	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples#	Sept. 17	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Mar. 31
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions#*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	April 1	May 10
HAMMOND, LA.	802	Unassigned	Berries	April 5	May 3
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	April 10	May 20

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued. R. M. Peterson)
 **State Dept. cooperating. G. A. DeHaven) To Florida for
 # Tri-weekly J. D. Evers) inspection work.
 R. H. Lamb)
 A. E. Prugh will leave Idaho S. W. Russell, assisting in Atlanta office.
 Falls for Texas about 3/20. W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. EXPENSES INCIDENT TO OUT-OF-TOWN INSPECTIONS.

Recent resignations and the transfer of the salaries of several Inspectors through cooperative appointments, together with release of a small reserve, have greatly improved our financial condition, and it is believed that by careful regard to expenditures for the remainder of the year it will be possible to handle expenses incident to out-of-town inspections in the same manner as we did before the publication of the directions in the Division Letter for January 10, Par. 2c. While the payment of the expenses of the Inspector in cash by the applicant is perfectly legal, it is not a desirable policy to be followed, and we are glad to be in financial position to discontinue it immediately.

2c. COLORADO INSPECTIONS PASS 9,000 MARK.

Under the system of voluntary, instead of compulsory, inspections at shipping points, the Colorado Inspection Service this season to the end of February had handled more than 9,000 cars of fruit and vegetables. Totals by districts are given below:

<u>District.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Monte Vista.....	3,392	Eagle.....	935
Delta.....	2,593	Greeley.....	549
Grand Junction.....	1,267	Denver.....	283
		Total to Mar. 2	9,019

3c. POTATO MEETINGS IN SAN LUIS VALLEY.

E. F. McKune, Federal-State Supervisor of Standardization and Inspection work in Colorado, returned recently to Denver from the San Luis Valley, where he assisted in conducting a series of 11 meetings among potato growers and shippers in that section. These meetings were arranged under the auspices of Prof. W. H. Olin, Supervisor of Agriculture, Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, and their object was to improve potato production and marketing in the San Luis Valley. Mr. McKune stressed particularly the importance of retaining the culls and off-stock on the farm and shipping only the better or marketable potatoes. The meetings, as a whole, were a decided success, and the D. & R. G. has been commended by many interested persons in the State on the assistance rendered the growers.

4c. COLORADO LETTUCE GROWERS TO ORGANIZE.

A meeting of Colorado lettuce producers was arranged for March 10, at which it was planned to organize a State-wide exchange to handle lettuce. This gathering was scheduled to be held in Denver, according to advices from Mr. McKune.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C.L.& L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C.L. & L.C.L.	Grand Grand Total	Total same month 1923	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	12	34	46	41	2	4	\$ 184	-	\$ 5
Baltimore	10	22	32	94	0	0	128	-	1
Boston	16	103	119	55	22	4	452	\$22.50	19
Buffalo	53	34	87	32	30	0	224	77.50	24
Chicago	151	131	282	344	15	8	1036	52.50	21
Cincinnati	9	43	51	32	0	0	200	-	2
Cleveland	10	62	72	66	133	0	260	17.50	20
Columbus	23	19	42	15	28	3	168	-	-
Denver	4	6	10	0	0	0	36	2.50	1
Detroit	34	26	60	30	2	0	212	17.50	4
Fort Worth	9	9	18	19	2	0	80	-	-
Harrisburg	0	2	2	3	1	0	8	-	1
Houston	9	8	17	13	0	0	56	7.50	-
Indianapolis	7	33	40	36	0	0	140	5.00	-
Kansas City	42	36	78	67	1	0	308	7.50	1
Los Angeles	1	6	7	8	1	0	28	-	0
Memphis	7	19	26	40	13	0	100	-	9
Milwaukee	11	17	28	36	0	0	88	5.00	4
Minneapolis	53	30	83	68	0	0	328	2.50	2
New Haven	24	25	49	-	10	0	176	12.50	8
New Orleans	20	87	107	42	76	0	368	37.50	12
New York	574	324	898	501	162	0	2756	527.50	10
Norfolk	6	21	27	23	4	2	100	5.00	5
Omaha	56	5	61	55	1	0	252	-	2
Philadelphia	18	57	75	640	21	1	272	12.50	2
Pittsburgh	18	85	103	195	20	0	408	2.50	14
Portland	10	60	70	-	0	0	280	-	1
Salt Lake City	1	0	1	-	1	0	4	-	-
St. Louis	61	162	223	71	118	0	820	45.00	28
Washington	34	33	67	48	7	0	256	7.50	5
Wilkes-Barre	5	9	14	21	6	1	56	-	13
TOTAL	1288	1507	2795	2595	556	23	\$9784	\$867.50	\$214

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections	1288	Inspections for Carriers..	556
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections..	1507	Declined for lack of time	23
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.	2795	Total Fees Assessed	\$10,888**

** Total Fees Assessed includes \$22.50 for inspections of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING FEBRUARY, 1924.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUALITY INSPECTED		"Guts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	127625		260		127885		201		0	
	8775			0	8775			0		0
NEW YORK	1002784		17950		1020734		7453		0	
	191141		1500		192641			0		0
NORFOLK	997702		0		997702		0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
PHILADELPHIA	136786		12929		149715		263		0	
	17999		1583		19587		31			0
SAN DIEGO	164762		2785		167547		304		0	
	70343		1681		72524		18			0
SAN FRANCISCO	259886		24600		284486		0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
SAN PEDRO	8640		791		9431		0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
VALLEJO	179941		1483		181429		0		0	
	37429		200		37629		0		0	
TOTALS	2876126		60803		2936929		8221		0	
	326157		4969		331156		49			0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	33531	2220	35751	0	0
NORFOLK	41070	1000	42070	0	4
TOTALS	74601	3220	77821	0	4

In addition to the above, the San Pedro office inspected 2,936 lbs. of bread, 500 lbs. of butter, and 91 1/2 lbs. of cheese, making a total of 3,527 1/2 lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected and accepted 24,840 lbs. of bread for the Navy.

(continued from Page 118)

4b. LETTUCE PROSPECTS IN THE EARLY STATES.

Figures compiled by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates show an early lettuce crop only slightly less than last season's:

Commercial Acreage and Forecast of Production of Lettuce in the Early States.

S T A T E	A C R E A G E			Y I E L D			P R O D U C T I O N		
	1922	1923	1924	1922	1923	Indi- cated 1924	1922	1923	1924
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Crts. or Hamp.	Crts. or Hamp.	Crts. or Hamp.	Crates and Hampers	Crates and Hampers	Crates and Hampers
Ariz. (crts.)	1,480	2,900	4,800	285	260	225	421,800	754,000	1,080,000
Calif. (crts.)									
Imp. Valley	11,000	14,130	18,700	150	185	150	1,650,000	2,614,000	2,805,000
Los Angeles, So. Coast District.	4,910	6,040	5,190	325	300	250	1,595,800	1,812,000	1,297,500
Fla. (Hampers)	3,140	3,780	3,500	550	360	350	1,727,000	1,360,800	1,225,000
Texas (Crates)	1,390	1,140	1,150	185	198	237	257,200	225,700	272,600
Total	21,920	27,990	33,340	255	242	200	5,651,800	6,766,500	6,680,100

OFFICE NOTES:

Leaving Washington last Tuesday night, Mr. Samson is on a five or six-weeks' trip to the South and West. He stopped first at New Orleans. This Saturday, Mr. Samson will attend a meeting of growers, shippers and State officials at San Antonio, Texas, where changes in the present grades for Bermuda onions will be considered. From Texas, Mr. Samson probably will go to Los Angeles and other points in southern California, before proceeding north along the Coast. This trip is chiefly in the interest of standardization problems. H. A. Spilman will handle the correspondence, etc., usually handled by Mr. Samson, during the latter's absence.

F. S. Kinsey, Supervising Inspector in the Wenatchee district of Washington, advises that the broccoli inspection work in the Northwest will be completed the last of this week or the middle of next. Mr. Kinsey will then go on two weeks' leave at his home in Los Angeles. Future assignment will be announced later.

Spinach inspections around Asherton, Texas, are almost finished, and C. D. Shirley, who has been engaged in that work, has now proceeded to the lower Rio Grande Valley, where he will assist Mr. Hoover with inspections at shipping points.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

ASPARAGUS market reports will be started this Saturday. Mimeographed bulletins will be issued from the Atlanta office and from Washington. As most of the Georgia asparagus is shipped in express lots, no f.o.b. reports will be available from that State, but Mr. Curry hopes to secure South Carolina f.o.b. reports when shipments start from that section.

Since George E. Prince has left Spokane to relieve A. E. Prugh, at Idaho Falls, Idaho, the apple market reports at Spokane will be handled by Mrs. Lola B. Gerry until the end of March, when the season closes. Mr. Prugh expects to leave Idaho Falls about March 20, and will stop at Salt Lake City and Denver for a day or two, en route to Laredo, Texas.

No Weekly News Letter of the Florida Inspection Service was issued this week, according to advice from Jos. D. Evers, the editor.

Mrs. M. L. Myers, formerly of the Grain Division, is assisting for the present with tabulations of unloads from the various city markets.

The heavy sleet and wind storms early this week interfered with radio-telegraph communication from Washington until Thursday morning. The Southern Circuit of the leased wire also was out of commission for more than a day, as was the Central Circuit. Full service was resumed late Wednesday.

The leased wire connection at Waupaca, Wis., was removed on Tuesday night to Stevens Point, which will be the broadcasting center for Wisconsin's market news service in the future. Potato market reports at Waupaca will be discontinued on March 31, instead of April 30, as originally planned.

The "Elmer Times," a newspaper with a large circulation in Salem and Cumberland counties, New Jersey, recently devoted two whole columns to the summary of the New Jersey potato deal, issued by E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, a few weeks ago.

Please make these changes of address on your Inspection Service lists:- The Virginia Division of Markets has moved from the Lyric Building to Room 1030, State Office Building, Richmond, and the address of F. Earl Parsons, under Richmond, should be corrected accordingly.

The residence address and phone number of L. D. Mills, at Wilkes-Barre should be changed to: 74 Atherton Ave., Kingston, Pa.; Bell phone Kingston 8477-M.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 12.
March 31, 1924.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. AUTHORITY FOR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS:

Our attention has been called to the fact that, apparently, the Secretary has not been advised of all meetings attended by employees, as contemplated by paragraph 221 of the Department Administrative Regulations. The Secretary desires to keep informed regarding attendance at such meetings. Where authority in advance is required, full details concerning your attendance at the meeting should be furnished to Washington office in time to submit the matter to the Secretary before the date of the meeting. When meetings are attended in the course of regular official travel, requiring only the authority of this Bureau as shown in the Regulations, a report of such attendance, the nature of the meeting and the participation of the employee in its proceedings should be forwarded to us immediately, for transmission to the Secretary. This matter should not be overlooked.

2a. AMENDMENTS TO FISCAL REGULATIONS.

The Fiscal Regulations of the Department contain such vital information of value to all employees dealing with fiscal matters, particularly those who travel, that they should be kept up-to-date. Changes are made frequently, which deal with matters of reimbursement for travel. Every technical man who travels is expected to possess a copy of the Fiscal Regulations, with loose-leaf binder. For his convenience in determining whether he has received all printed amendments to date, the amended pages are listed below:

Title page.	Page 12-R	Page 23-2Ra	Page 50-R
"Amendments and	" 21-R	" 29-R	" 50-Ra
Reprints" page.	" 22-R	" 30-R	" 51-R
Page 12-R	" 23-2R	" 35-2R	" 52-R
" 2-R	" 24-2R	" 36-2R	" 53-R
" 19-R	" 25-R	" 37-R	" 54-R
" 10-R	" 26-R	" 38-R	" 57-R
" 10-Ra	" 27-2R	" 38-Ra	" 58-R
" 11-R	" 28-2R	" 49-R	

3a. DETAILED INFORMATION NEEDED IN REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS.

In requesting appointments for clerical, subclerical or technical men, temporary as well as probationary, it is important that all the information requested on both sides of Form MS-51 be filled in. Your attention is directed particularly to the matter of education, training and experience of prospective appointees. The details of employment, such as definite periods, salary received and, particularly, the nature of the duties performed in each position, should be fully stated. Any information relating to the fitness of the prospective employee for the position should be mentioned.

4a. NEW BULLETIN ON SWEET POTATOES.

Department Bulletin No. 1206, "Marketing Southern-Grown Sweet Potatoes," by George O. Gatlin, has just recently come from the press. Copies may be had on application to the Office of Publications, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington. This is an excellent bulletin, covering a subject never before treated so fully. It includes shipment and arrival statistics; a chapter on grades and grading; one on containers and packing; a page or more on the market news service, and two pages on the inspection service. The bulletin contains about 20 half-tone illustrations and line cuts.

5a. SOUTH CAROLINA TOMATOES AND PEACHES.

Extension Bulletin 59, "Commercial Grading and Packing of Tomatoes," and Extension Bulletin 60, "Commercial Harvesting, Grading and Marketing of Peaches in South Carolina," are two bulletins recently issued by the Extension Service of Clemson Agricultural College, at Clemson College, S.C., in cooperation with the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. These publications are of value to all interested in the subjects indicated, and copies probably can be had from Clemson College.

6a. COLD WEATHER IN COLORADO.

In the Carbondale - Eagle district of Colorado, six inches of snow fell on March 8, and the thermometer registered 4° below zero. Further advice from F. A. Powell, Supervising Inspector, indicates that the potatoes in that district are practically cleaned up, except at Carbondale and Eagle stations. Neal D. Sanborn, Supervising Inspector at Monte Vista, states that the San Luis Valley was visited by a severe snow storm and, during the cold spell which lasted from March 8 to 10, the temperature for a while was 10° below zero. Several cases of freezing injury occurred to potatoes in cellars and to partly loaded cars on track. The smaller shipping points in the Valley are about cleaned up, and the bulk of future shipments will move from Monte Vista, Center, Del Norte, and Freeman. Some of this stock will likely be held back until April.

7a. NEW BASKET LAW IN NEW JERSEY.

Below is quoted a special statement issued by the New Jersey Bureau of Markets under date of March 10:

"Fruit-growing interests of the State have been successful in procuring the passage of a legislative bill making legal the use in three sizes of what is known to the markets as the Climax basket.

"Under the new law it will be legal to use two-quart, four-quart, and twelve-quart Climax baskets as containers for fruit and other farm products. The bill specifies the exact dimensions of the baskets and requires that the size be plainly marked on the outside of each such container.

The State Bureau of Markets and the Department of Weights and Measures were instrumental in drawing up the bill so that it would conform to recently adopted Federal standards. Fines will be the penalty for use of other than standard sizes of Climax baskets or for use of unmarked containers."

As an editorial note, it may be added that previously the New Jersey law contemplated the use of the eight-quart Climax basket, rather than the twelve-quart basket.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ASPARAGUS PROSPECTS IN GEORGIA.

Since the publication of asparagus market reports has been started at Atlanta and Washington, the following facts from a letter of March 7, written by Mr. Stillwell at Fort Valley, Ga., may be of interest:-

Estimated shipments from Georgia: Fort Valley, 10,000 to 15,000 crates; Marshallville, 20,000 crates; also light shipments from Byron, Perry and Americus. Westbound stuff to be consolidated in cars at Columbus, Ga. No plans for consolidating eastern movement. Last year South Carolina Association and local shippers agreed to a split on markets, South Carolina taking eastern points and Georgia western. Probably a similar agreement this year.

Georgia asparagus is packed in standard California crates, 12 bunches to the crate, each bunch wrapped with oiled paper; about 2 pounds in a bunch. Average yield around 40 crates per acre. Much young stuff not in bearing yet. Average returns last year over \$4.00 per crate. The deal is to be handled primarily by three factors: Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, 15,000 crates; A. J. Evans, 5,000 crates, and Denny & Company, 10,000 crates. Exchange stuff is mostly at Marshallville. Few f.o.b. sales anticipated; not enough to try to get. Early shipments first of next week (i.e. March 10); not much until March 15. Last year's movement from Marshallville 16,000 crates; Fort Valley 6,000 crates,- approximations only. All went by express, l.c.l. shipments. The peach crop is looking fine. Practically all will be Government inspected.

2b. ASSOCIATED PRESS RELEASES IN TEXAS.

Writing under date of March 11, J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Radio Market News Service, sent this additional information:

"As we now have the Associated Press wires for a 150-word story daily on cabbage markets, our service has been greatly extended. The enclosed map, which brings the telegraph service up to date, shows a dozen more points in Texas than does the map you kindly published on page 104 of the Division Letter for March 7. We also file the daily wool market off the wire to the A. P. immediately on its receipt .

"I file cabbage at noon, reaching the Brownsville 'Herald' in time for the afternoon edition, which is circulated up the Lower Rio Grande Valley by bus line, reaching practically all shipping points before dark."

The complete list of towns and newspapers on Mr. Hunter's new map includes the following; the connecting wires encircle the State:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <u>Austin</u> "American." | 10. <u>Beaumont</u> "Enterprise." |
| " " "Statesman." | 11. <u>Texarkana</u> "Four States Express." |
| 2. <u>Laredo</u> "Times." (radio) | 12. <u>Sulphur Springs</u> "News Tribune." |
| 3. <u>Houston</u> "Chronicle." (radio) | 13. <u>Denison</u> "Herald." |
| " " "Dispatch." (radio) | 14. <u>Sherman</u> "Democrat." |
| 4. <u>Dallas</u> "News." | 15. <u>Wichita Falls</u> "Record News." |
| 5. <u>Galveston</u> "News." | " " " "Times." |
| 6. <u>San Antonio</u> "Express." | 16. <u>Abilene</u> "Reporter." |
| 7. <u>Brownsville</u> "Herald." | 17. <u>Amarillo</u> "News." |
| 8. <u>Temple</u> "Telegram." | 18. <u>San Angelo</u> "Standard." |
| 9. <u>Waco</u> "Times Herald." | 19. <u>El Paso</u> "Times." |
| " " "News Tribune." | " " " "Herald." |

EXPLANATION OF FLOOR DIAGRAM OF F. & V. DIVISION.

The Fruit and Vegetable Division offices in Washington are listed below in numerical order, with a general (not detailed) indication of the work performed in each office. On the accompanying diagram, the names in parentheses are of employees not at present in the rooms indicated, though these rooms are the respective F. & V. headquarters of such persons. Mr. Park, for example, is detailed to the Crop Estimates Division. Messrs. Bier and Conklin are in Florida on inspection and standardization work, while Miss Felder is located in the Cashier's Office, where she prepares checks for Domestic Wool Section.

- 522a: Mr. Sherman, Specialist in Charge, Fruit and Vegetable Division and Domestic Wool Section.
- 500: General administration of Market News Service.
- 501: Supplies, property, leases, miscellaneous administrative matters; mail.
- 502: Fiscal matters, vouchers, Letters of Authorization, personnel actions.
- 503: General business administration of the Division. Headquarters of the Domestic Wool Section. Mr. Martin reports the Washington produce market, and assists with local inspection work.
- 504: Preparation of shipment statistics for publication in bulletin form; also some work on unload reports in city markets.
- 505: Distribution of excess profits made by dealers on 1918 wool clip.
- 506: Research work, - auction studies, Northwestern apple problems, etc.
- 511: File room for daily market reports; distribution of reports in answer to numerous letters. Mr. Crosthwait also gets Potomac Yards passings.
- 514: Market News mailing lists. Work on peanut and honey reports. Mr. Stambaugh also does decoding of market wires in Room 521.
- 515: Mimeographing; mailing local report; filing of stencils, etc.
- 516a: Preparation of Dept. and Farmers' Bulletins; supervision of publicity work, reviews, and general work in Rooms 516 and 517.
- 516: Assisting in preparation of bulletins; weekly statistical tables, marketgrams, special market wires, price tabulations, etc.
- 517: Preparation of weekly Division Letter; weekly and monthly reviews; radiophone reports; material for "Crops and Markets" and correspondence on marketing problems, etc. Mrs. Barlow assists Miss Watt with work on unload reports, and helps with viseing of market wires.
- 519: Miss Watt is in charge of unload reports and their distribution, and also visees daily market wires. Others in this room assist with unload tabulations, etc. Mr. Vradenburg also helps decode market wires.
- 520: General charge of market reports on F. & V., peanuts and honey; viseing and editing of reports; radiograph reports, correspondence, etc.
- 521: Stencil-cutting room, checking stencils, general typing, etc. All the decoding and viseing of market wires is done in this room.
- 522: General administration of Inspection Service; also office of local inspector, etc.
- 523: General administration of work on Grades and Standards, and research work.
- 524: Early morning telegraphic reports of shipments; distribution of mail-report blanks to R.R. agents, and checking these reports. Miss Korbly keeps inspection offices advised of inspections at shipping points.
- 525: Administration of Enforcement of Standard Container Act; special investigations, research work, etc.
- 526: Testing of containers submitted by package factories, etc.
- 527: General administration of Transportation work, correspondence, etc.; preparation of weekly carlot summary; follow-up system to keep the telegraphic reports of shipments in line; tabulations of monthly mail reports from local freight agents; other statistical work.
- 528: Recording and filing inspection certificates; abstracting data for B.P.I.

[illegible]

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
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EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	April 1	May 3
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	Unassigned	Potatoes	April 7	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	April 10	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	April 15	May 20

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.
 **State Dept. cooperating.
 # Tri-weekly

R. M. Peterson)
 G. A. DeHaven) To Florida for
 J. D. Evers) inspection work.
 R. H. Lamb)
 S. W. Russell, assisting in Atlanta office.
 W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.

A. E. Prugh will leave Idaho
 Falls for Texas about 3/25

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN HASTINGS DISTRICT.

In a recent letter from A. E. Mercker, at Orlando, Fla., he wrote:-

"In a few days I will change my address to either Hastings or Palatka, to take charge of work in the Hastings district. The potato crop looks very good; it has been set back a week or ten days by the cool weather, but all indications point to a good yield. This district will probably ship 4,400-4,500 cars, and we hope to get 40% to 50% of these shipments for inspection. We have two very hard problems: (1) double-head barrels and (2) poor roads and transportation."

2c. BEAN INSPECTIONS DESIRED.

Writing under date of March 17, from Orlando, Fla., E.E. Conklin, Jr., said in part:

"During the past week, considerable interest has appeared in string bean grades and inspection. At Wauchula and Arcadia inspection has been requested on beans, in addition to cucumbers. In Sumter County, which is one of the heaviest sections for beans, I visited shippers at Center Hill, and they are anxious to try out inspection on this crop. At one point, they are willing to guarantee 150 cars for inspection. This deal starts about April 10, and the one at Wauchula may start sooner."

3c. INSPECTION RECORDS FOR FEBRUARY.

Additional inspection records have been broken, as will be noticed by the tabulation of February inspections on Page 121 of last week's D.L. New York's total of 898 is 68 more than in January, and therefore is the largest number ever made in one month by any office. The grand total of 2,795 inspections is the highest record ever made for February.

A few errors were passed in the reading of the stencils: The word "Grand" was unintentionally repeated at top of fourth column on Page 121, and in the Navy and Marine Corps table on Page 122 the word "Quality" at top of fourth column should have been "Quantity." This was copied erroneously from the January table in D.L. for February 14.

These monthly inspection tables usually are prepared while other duties are pressing for attention, and it is a simple matter to pick up the wrong column of figures. This happened for the first time in a long while in last week's table of city inspections. The column headed "Total same month 1923" contained figures for February, 1922, instead of 1923. By using the correct figures (for 1923) such offices as New York show a much greater increase in volume of work and Philadelphia, for example, shows far less of a decrease. For the information of those who may be interested, below are given the correct comparative totals for February this year and last:

Market.	Feb. 1924	Feb. 1923	Market.	Feb. 1924	Feb. 1923	Market.	Feb. 1924	Feb. 1923
Atlanta.....	46	63	Fort Worth.....	18	30	New York.....	898	361
Baltimore.....	32	36	Harrisburg.....	2	3	Norfolk.....	27	26
Boston.....	119	92	Houston.....	17	51	Omaha.....	61	23
Buffalo.....	87	29	Indianapolis...	40	32	Philadelphia..	75	217
Chicago.....	282	295	Kansas City....	78	77	Pittsburgh....	103	111
Cincinnati.....	51	57	Los Angeles....	7	4	Portland.....	70	-
Cleveland.....	72	85	Memphis.....	26	52	Salt Lake City	1	-
Columbus.....	42	20	Milwaukee.....	28	48	St. Louis.....	223	95
Denver.....	10	5	Minneapolis....	83	92	Washington....	67	45
Detroit.....	60	63	New Haven.....	49	-	Wichita.....	-	12
Erie.....	-	6	New Orleans....	107	84	Wilkes-Barre..	14	12
						TOTAL.....	2795	2126

4c. ESTIMATING THE WEIGHT OF WATERMELONS.

R. C. Rose, Inspector at Cincinnati, deserves credit for having evolved a unique system of estimating the weight of watermelons. It is likely that a number of the measuring sticks, or calipers, which he has devised will be made in the Department shops at Washington, for use the coming season. This week's Florida News Letter contains an elaborate statement of this new system, the article having been copied from the Annual Report of James L. Leonard, President of the Melon Distributors Association, presented at its recent meeting at Tifton, Ga. The larger part of Mr. Leonard's statement is given below:-

"During the watermelon season of 1923 it occurred to Dr. R. C. Rose, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture, that it might be possible to estimate, sufficiently accurate for inspection purposes, the weight of watermelons from their dimensions, namely, their length and diameter.

"As a test of this suggested method, four hundred Tom Watson watermelons were weighed and measured. From the data thus obtained six groups of weights and measurements were taken; each group representing fifty watermelons. The average of the calculated weights for five of the groups varied from the average of the determined weights by less than one pound. The average of the calculated weights for the sixth group varied from the average of the determined weights by slightly over one pound. The calculated weight for the smallest melon in each group varied from the determined weight by one pound or less, and for the largest melon exceeded the determined weight by two pounds in only one case. The calculated weights of the four hundred melons showed that for 8% of the melons these weights were the same as the determined weights; approximately 70% of the calculated weights varied from the determined weights by $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds or less, approximately 80% by 2 pounds or less, and approximately 90% by three pounds or less; the remaining 10% exceeded the determined weight by over 3 pounds.

"The results indicate that for inspection purposes the average weight and the range in weights may be obtained with a high degree of accuracy by this method, but it should be borne in mind that the experimental data are not complete enough to justify changing existing commercial practices at this time.

"Further data will be obtained during the coming season, and it does not seem too much to expect that the Bureau will be able to submit to growers and shippers, and receive a quick and accurate method which may find a wide application.

"This method of calculating the weight of watermelons is based upon the relation existing between the weight and the dimensions of the melon; namely, the length and diameter. The data used for determining this relation were obtained by weighing and measuring four hundred watermelons, ranging in weight from thirteen (13) to thirty-six (36) pounds; in length from fourteen (14) to twenty-three and one-half ($23\frac{1}{2}$) inches; and in diameter from six and one-half ($6\frac{1}{2}$) to nine and one-half ($9\frac{1}{2}$) inches.

"The weights were obtained by the use of a tested sixty (60) pound spring balance which weighed to half pounds.

"The measurements, given in inches and fractions thereof, were obtained by means of a caliper, similar to that used in shoe stores, which was constructed from a yard stick and two angle irons with six-inch arms. The measurements were made to the nearest quarter inch. In determining the lengths no allowance

(continued over)

was made for irregularities, except to see that the stem of the melons did not interfere. The diameter was taken as that found midway between the ends and only melons with decidedly pointed ends were avoided. Otherwise no selection for shape was attempted.

"The shape of a typical Tom Watson melon is essentially that of a cylinder. The weight of any body of a cylindrical shape is, of course, the product of the volume and the weight of a unit of the volume of the material of which the body is composed. The formula from which this calculation can be made is $\frac{3}{4}\pi D^2 \times L \times W_s = W$; where D equals diameter, L equals length, W_s equals weight of a unit of volume of the substance, and W the weight of the body. (π equals 3.1416.)

"The weight of a unit of volume (cubic inch) of watermelon was determined as approximately .4 oz. For practical purposes $\frac{3}{4}\pi$ was taken as .8. The substitution of these figures in the formula gives:

$$.8D^2 \times L \times .4 = \text{Weight in ounces.}$$

"It is only necessary to divide this expression by 16 to reduce the weight to pounds. Simplification of this expression leads to the expression:

$$\frac{2D^2L}{100} = W$$

"This means that, roughly speaking, the weight of a watermelon is directly proportional to its length and to the square of its diameter."

5c. REVISED LIST OF EAST COAST SHIPPERS.

W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector at Homestead, Fla., writes that, up to March 11, 762 cars of tomatoes had been inspected at loading points along the East Coast. He expects that total inspections for the season will be at least 1,000 cars.

Below is a revised list of the shippers who are using the Federal-State inspection service on tomatoes in that territory:-

<u>Shipper</u>	<u>Shipping Point</u>	<u>Brand</u>
Applegate, R. O.	Princeton	Wm. Penn Brand
Buffalo Vegetable Marketing Co.,	Rockdale	(Buffalo Brand
Buffalo Vegetable Marketing Co.,	Naranja	(Dadesdelight
Chase & Co.	Goulds	(Spade Brand
Chase & Co.	Perrine	(Terrapin Brand
Chase & Co.	Homestead	(Club Brand
Fla. East Coast Growers Assn.	Florida City	Florida City Local
Fla. East Coast Growers Assn.	Goulds	Globe Brand
(W. H. Cauly)		
Goulds Fruit & Veg. Growers Assn.	Goulds	Just Right Brand
Hardee & Gentile. (Burr & Bush)	Goulds	(Three Friends Brand
Hardee & Gentile	Rockdale	(Liberty Bell Brand
Hardee & Gentile	Goulds	(Circle H. Brand
Hardee & Gentile	Homestead	(Sub-Rosa Brand
Hardee & Gentile	Florida City	
Hinman Bros.	Princeton	U-Like Brand
Lee, W. E. & Co.	Black Point	Superior Brand
Naranja Truckers Assn.	Naranja	Eclipse Brand
Royal Palm Truckers Assn.	Homestead	High Tide Brand

*The editor's guess is that where $\frac{3}{4}$ appears in formula it is intended to be $\frac{1}{4}$.

6c. ADDRESSES OF MEN IN FLORIDA.

Latest addresses of our men engaged in inspection work, market news, or standardization work in Florida, are as follows:

ORLANDO, - Room 906, Angebilt Hotel:

Robert Eier

A. E. Mercker (soon to move to Hastings)

J. D. Evers (Market News)

E. E. Conklin, Jr. (Standardization work)

CLIPAWATER, - 509 N. Fort Harrison Ave.,

B. E. Shaffer

FORT MYERS, - 136 Royal Palm Ave.:

F. E. Hooper

HOMESTEAD, - Homestead Hotel:

W. V. Stephens

C. H. Behnke (soon to go to Palmetto)

P. D. Rupert

LEESBURG, - First National Bank Bldg.:

R. M. Peterson

PALMETTO, - P. O. Box 238:

R. H. Lamb

SANFORD, - Court House:

N. C. Farnworth

G. A. DeHaven (soon to go to Wauchula)

F. H. Scruggs (Market News)

The name of O. G. Strauss does not appear on the latest address list issued in Florida, but it is assumed he is in

LAKELAND, - P. O. Box 1101:

O. G. Strauss (soon to go to Mobile, Ala.)

7c. NEW INSPECTION DEALS TO BE OPENED.

The Florida News Letter gives the following schedule of future inspection work at shipping points, with probable opening dates:-

<u>HASTINGS, FLA.</u>	<u>WAUCHULA, FLA.</u>	<u>PALMETTO, FLA.</u>	<u>MOBILE, ALA.</u>
- March 25 -	- March 30 -	- April 6 -	- April 10 -
A. E. Mercker:	G. A. DeHaven:	C. H. Behnke:	O. G. Strauss:
Potatoes	Potatoes	Tomatoes	Cabbage
	Tomatoes		Cucumbers
	Cucumbers		Potatoes
	String Beans		

8c. INSPECTION OF EXPRESS SHIPMENTS DESIRED.

A. E. Mercker visited Jacksonville last Saturday, where he conferred with Commissioner L. M. Rhodes, regarding the progress of Florida inspection work, and with the General Supt. of the American Railway Express Company. From 40 to 125 express cars are loaded at Jacksonville daily, and the Company has applied for inspection of these shipments. The cars are comprised of such small lots from so large a number of shippers, and shipments are loaded so quickly, that it is very difficult to make thorough inspections.

F. G. ROBB,

Spec. list in Inspection.

(continued from Page 127)

3b. POTOMAC YARDSPASSINGS.

At the present time, some twenty different fruits and vegetables are passing through the Potomac Yards, mostly from Florida. Movement of oranges is heaviest, - about 75 to 100 cars daily. Grapefruit and celery also are coming in large volume, and cabbage shipments are heavy. Tomato movement has grown to 35 - 45 cars daily. New potatoes, peas, radishes, and eggplant are passing in limited quantities. Strawberries are conspicuous by their absence, several cars each week being the limit. Last year at this time 10 to 15 cars of berries were reported each day. Other southern products passing Potomac Yards are:

Mixed vegetables.	Romaine.	String beans.	Escarole.	Apples.
Spinach.	Chicory.	Peppers.	Sweet potatoes.	Lettuce.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 15:

Page 165 - Special paragraph on Onions in weekly review.

167 - Northwestern Apple Shipments Break Record, - by G. E. Prince.

- Maine Potato Deal Successful, - by H. S. Stiles.

E. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys.

OFFICE NOTES:

At the conference of State marketing officials and college representatives of Atlantic Coast States, held in our Philadelphia office this morning, Mr. Robb gave an address on "Recent Developments in Inspection Work." Mr. Robb then proceeds to Onley, Va., where, on Saturday morning, he will confer with directors of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange regarding the possible inspection of potatoes and other crops in that section this season.

Robert Bier also will come from Florida to attend the conference on potato inspections at Onley, Va. He will then visit the Washington office for a few days to make definite arrangements for shipping-point inspection service in various southern States.

Mr. Samson attended the conference on grades and inspection work at San Antonio, Texas, on Saturday, as announced in the last Division Letter. Monday he met with State officials at Austin to discuss the revision of various vegetable grades, and on Tuesday started for southern California.

After visiting various points in Florida, Mr. Stillwell was at Crystal Springs, Miss., this Thursday; at Hammond, La., Friday morning; and at New Orleans Friday evening and Saturday. He next expects to visit Texas points.

N. H. Brown, of the Alabama Dept. of Agriculture, spent part of last week at Orlando, Fla., conferring with Messrs. Bier and Stillwell, regarding the Inspection Service and Market News work of this Bureau. Mr. Brown made an investigation of the shipping-point inspection work in Florida. It is understood that he intends to inaugurate a similar service in Alabama.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

N. C. Farnworth was transferred last Monday to Sanford, Fla., where he will have charge of inspection work on celery. Ralph H. Lamb has been left in charge of the Palmetto office.

P. D. Rupert, formerly in charge of shipping-point inspections at Sanford, has been transferred to Homestead, Fla., to assist W. V. Stephens in the inspection of tomatoes. Mr. Bier accompanied Mr. Rupert to Homestead, in order to confer with those handling the work along the East Coast.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, O. G. Strauss attended an important meeting of growers, shippers and business men called by the Chamber of Commerce at Bartow, Fla., to discuss ways and means of alleviating some of the difficulties now confronting the citrus industry in that State. Mr. Strauss was made a member of the Standardization Committee by this convention. One of the important resolutions adopted at this meeting was that favoring U.S. grades for citrus fruits and Government inspection at shipping points. Another meeting is to be held at Orlando to further crystallize certain remedies proposed at the Bartow meeting.

A quantity of grapefruit and oranges was sent the Washington office by Mr. Conklin, at Orlando, showing typical examples of various blemishes in this fruit. The specimens also illustrate the Florida inspection service interpretation of texture, discoloration and blemishes, as affecting grade. Some excellent photographs of these specimens, both entire and cut in half, have been made by the Bureau's photographic laboratory.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 707, "Commercial Grading, Packing and Shipping of Cantaloupes," is being completely revised before another edition is printed. Wm. E. Lewis, of the Washington office, is handling the greater part of this work.

J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, was obliged to attend court part of three days this week, in a law suit over a car of grapes which he had inspected.

Because of the delay of onion movement from Texas, opening of the Laredo field station has been deferred until April 10. It will not be necessary, therefore, for A. E. Prugh, who will be in charge at Laredo, to leave Idaho Falls, Idaho, until about March 25. Potato market reports at Idaho Falls will be discontinued on March 31 instead of April 30.

Apparently Mr. Biddle sent copies of his Summary of 1923 Unloads to the newspapers in his territory, for the Philadelphia "Inquirer" of March 5 devoted nearly half a column to a review of this special report.

The temporary appointments of Mrs. Mae Dove, in Mr. Fiske's section, and Mrs. Florence Bosworth, in Mr. Patton's section, expired this week. Mrs. Rose Doty has been transferred from Mr. Patton's section to Mr. Fiske's work, and Mrs. Ethel Showalter Rice will be reinstated about April 1 to fill the vacancy in Mr. Patton's office. Mrs. Rice resigned about two years ago, after four years' service on the mail reports of shipments.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The Idaho Falls "Daily Post" published, on March 14, a two-column story by A. E. Prugh on the Potato Market News Service, as conducted by this Bureau and especially at the Idaho Falls field station. The Ashton "Herald" shortly before that time had a special potato article, more than a column in length, also prepared by Mr. Prugh.

C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, has submitted a clipping from the Rochester "Herald" of March 17, giving the March 1 storage holdings of apples, onions and carrots in central and western New York, as estimated by a Mr. Knapp. The total for apples is given as 4,350 carloads; onions, 540 cars, and carrots, 250 cars.

Page 13 of The New York Packer for March 15 carried an extensive article by R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, regarding the Oregon potato situation.

W. E. Harrison, in charge of the Baltimore market news work, was a visitor to the Washington office on Wednesday. He conferred on matters relating to unload reports and other features of the news service.

Copies of Yakima Valley Traffic and Credit Association Bulletin No. 547, mentioned in Par. 4b, Division Letter of March 7, have now been received by Mr. Samson's office and a few are still available for distribution.

Miss Cecelia Daly, clerk-typist in the Rochester office, will be placed on furlough for the next few months, beginning next Monday. Miss Daly has assisted with the market news work in Rochester for several seasons.

Please NOTE that the New Orleans office of the Inspection Service has been moved from Room 207 to Room 216, Post Office Building. Correct your office address list accordingly.

Additional copies of the floor diagram published in this Division Letter opposite Page 128, can be obtained on application to Washington office.

INSPECTORS are being sent this week a copy of Farmers' Bulletin 1367, "Control of Potato-Tuber Diseases." This bulletin was prepared by Michael Shapovalov and George K. K. Link, Pathologists of B.P.I.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 13.

March 28, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. RECLASSIFICATION AND PROMOTIONS.

There was general disappointment in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, when it was learned considerably after the first of January that the usual number of promotions could not be approved as of that date. As the law now stands, reclassification will be effective for those with headquarters in Washington, D. C., on July 1 next. The status of the field force after that date is uncertain, but our latest information indicates that the provisions of the Reclassification Act may be extended to the field on July 1.

The law provides that anyone who, on the first day of July, is receiving a salary, which is one of the salaries in the grade in which his job falls, shall be entered in his appropriate grade without change of salary. If his salary is between two salaries in any grade, it shall be adjusted to the next higher even salary in that grade. The result will be a very large number of rather small promotions, - such, for instance, as promotions from a total salary of \$2,520 to \$2,600 or from a total salary of \$2,040 to \$2,100. For purposes of this calculation the bonus is considered a part of the present salary. Everyone receiving less than the minimum for his grade will be promoted automatically to that minimum.

We have no idea what policy will be adopted governing promotions after July 1, nor can we at this time indicate the rate at which an employe may advance in salary in his grade. We are in a transition period so far as the handling of salaries is concerned, and there is every indication that the employees generally must exercise patience until it is known what policies will govern after July 1. In the meantime, we are at liberty to recommend promotions only for those members of the technical force whose cases are evidently exceptional or who have a change of duties such as to make a promotion obviously necessary.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. CONDITIONS AT FORT MYERS, FLA.

F. E. Hooper, of Fort Myers, included in a letter of March 16 the following interesting report on the condition of truck crops in his section:

"Potatoes here are a funny thing; they range from the size of a pullet's first egg to about 2½ inches in diameter. The general way they are graded is mainly for size, No. 1's being truly over 1 7/8 inches and of good quality. They range fairly uniform in size throughout the container. No. 2's are smaller, but too little for No. 1 small. Some of these potatoes were shipped in cardboard containers at a great reduction in price to growers. I went the rounds of a few farms today and noticed that peppers are in about the same shape they were two weeks ago. The last two weeks of cold weather and rain have held back the crop. I look for spring peppers to begin moving about April 1 if the weather stays warm."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. HIGH PRICES FOR NEBRASKA BLISS TRIUMPHS

The following letter of March 20, from George C. Bavlev, of the Detroit office, explains the relatively high prices paid for Nebraska potatoes:

"Possibly an explanation is due relative to the apparent high premium the trade here is paying for Nebraska Bliss Triumph potatoes.

"As I understand it, this is the first year that these potatoes have been sold in Detroit to any extent. The trade is familiar with this variety only as new potatoes from the southern States, which has given the carlot receivers an opportunity of passing this stock as new potatoes. I have noted quite a few signs in the stores, among them the chain stores, in which these potatoes are offered as new potatoes, selling as a rule from 4¢ to 6¢ per pound. As the quality of the stock has been very good, there has been, up to just recently, quite an active demand for these Nebraska Triumphs. Mr. F.A.L. Bloom, formerly with the Bureau, handled the first cars, but has been receiving quite a little competition lately.

"A word in reference to the Michigan stock: Besides the cars of potatoes I have inspected, I have for my own satisfaction looked at quite a few additional lots. I think one is safe in saying that a very small percentage of the cars will grade U. S. No. 1, due mainly to the large percentage of hollow heart. However, as most of the cars are sold on this basis, I am still quoting U. S. No. 1 in our daily market reports."

2b. WIRES MIXED

A queer thing happened at San Francisco to impair temporarily the radio telegraph service to Los Angeles and other points. C. J. Hansen explains the situation in the following letter of March 20 to H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office:

"The delay in radio today was caused by a ship becoming entangled in the cables. In the repair, NPG was placed on the wrong arc, and we were sending to Honolulu and did not know it until 10:30."

3b. I. A. S. A. REPORTS INCLUDE ALL EXPORTS

The question arose as to whether or not the weekly reports of apple exports, received from the International Apple Shippers' Association, include all exports from the United States and Canada or only those shipments through members of this Association. In reply, R. G. Phillips, Secretary, sent the following letter under date of March 25:

"I beg to advise that our export reports cover all exportations from all Canadian and United States Ports on both the Atlantic and Pacific. They are complete and are not simply the exports of members of this Association. Canadian as well as United States apples are included."

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 22:

Page 181 - Special paragraph on Apples in weekly review.

183 - Idaho Russets in Demand, - by A. E. Prugh.

- Water Shortage in Southern California, - by H. A. Harris.

- Passings at Potomac Yards, Va. (filler)

B. C. BORER,

Investigator in Market Surveys,

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions *	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	April 2	May 3
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	April 10	May 10
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	April 15	May 20
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	April 15	May 20

The following stations close on dates indicated:

ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	<u>Closed</u> Nov. 3 Oct. 13 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 8 Mar. 8 Jan. 12
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 29
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Mar. 29

* Reports discontinued.

**State Dept. cooperating.

A. E. Prugh will leave Idaho Falls for Texas about 4/1.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson)
G. A. DeHaven) To Florida for inspection work
S. W. Russell, assisting in Atlanta office.
W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. CONDITION INSPECTIONS OF TOMATOES IN RECEIVING MARKETS.

In making condition inspection covering tomatoes which have been inspected at shipping point, it should be remembered that such certificates must be limited strictly to factors of condition, the principal of which are maturity and decay. Puffiness is a factor of grade and does not change in transit. No mention should be made of puffiness, therefore, on certificates which are restricted to condition.

2c. PUFFINESS IN FLORIDA TOMATOES.

A letter of March 19, from W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector at Homestead, Fla., tells how puffiness of tomatoes is handled in inspections at shipping points along the East Coast:

"As you are aware, the word 'puffy' is not specifically mentioned in our grades. For the purpose of inspection work, however, we have interpreted the phrase 'free from damage by mechanical or other means' to cover fully this condition.

"Puffiness in tomatoes is very much like hollow heart of potatoes, since neither defect can be detected in all cases by external examination alone. Instructions in our Handbook are fairly complete and should enable anyone to recognize pronounced puffiness without difficulty. Border line cases, however, can easily be misjudged, and I am confident that cutting a considerable number of representative samples is the only safe method to employ. Rough tomatoes may be solid and meaty, and smooth stock frequently shows decidedly open and puffy when cut.

"When a tomato has thick walls and partitions and is only slightly puffy in one locule, we are passing it in U.S. Grade No. 1. If a tomato is open in two or more spaces, or is very puffy even in one locule, we do not consider it to be of No. 1 quality."

3c. TOMATOES AT HALLENDALE, FLA.

Mr. Stephens recently made a trip to Hallendale, Fla., about 20 miles north of Miami. On March 19 the following message was received from him:

"I went up to Hallendale today. They won't begin to ship tomatoes from that point for three or four weeks. The plants look mighty good, but they are young and small. Most of the plants have not set any fruit as yet. The cold weather nipped a few leaves but did not do any real damage."

4c. REFRIGERATOR AND VENTILATOR CARS.

F.B. Parrish, General Agent of the Fruit Growers Express, in a letter of March 16, advised of the danger of confusing refrigerator with ventilator cars. Although his communication was addressed to the Florida Inspection Service, it is of interest to all Inspectors:

"As regards certificates covering FEC cars in the 10000 series: Though these cars have every appearance of being refrigerators, they are not and are listed in the Official Railway Equipment Register as ventilated box cars. We, therefore, do not require inspection certificates covering them."

5c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS:

Inspections made during the period March 1 to 15 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Clearwater.....	28	Grapefruit.....	70
Fort Myers.....	72	Oranges.....	62
Homestead.....	255	Mixed Citrus	9
Lakeland.....	288	Tangerines.....	1
Leesburg.....	84	Total.....	142
Orlando.....	15	Tomatoes.....	254
Palmetto.....	53	Celery.....	212
Sanford	172	Cabbage.....	95
TOTAL.....	707	Mixed Vegetables	4
		Total.....	565

In the Division Letter for March 7, Par. 6c, inspections for the last half of February were tabulated. Grand total this season to the end of February was given as 3,843 cars. By adding the 707 cars inspected during the first half of March, the total to that time is 4,550. Daily average inspections, which were 51 the second half of February, had increased to 54 in March. Total vegetable inspections since the beginning of this service last November are 3,079, and total citrus fruits 1,471 cars. Total inspections by sections since the start are:-

Sanford.....	1,200	Palmetto.....	956
Homestead.....	815	Lakeland	450
Fort Myers.....	351	Clearwater.....	343
Orlando.....	313	Leesburg.....	122

6c. HEAVY RAINS DISASTROUS TO TRUCK CROPS.

During the first part of last week, heavy rains caused considerable damage to Florida truck crops, according to reports received from the different sections of the State. Below are extracts from letters sent in by the Supervising Inspectors:-

R. M. Peterson, of Leesburg, wrote the following on March 20:

"The rain has certainly raised havoc around here. It is too early to tell how much damage has been done, but the beans and cucumbers will be delayed a week or ten days anyway. Some of the fields are actually under water; others are so wet that growth has been retarded, and many fields of cucumbers and melons have not come up and will have to be replanted."

W. V. Stephens, of Homestead, wrote as follows on tomatoes:

"It is raining 'to beat the band' here just now, and that means the old vines, which have not already gone to the bad, will do so very shortly. At least three-fourths of the old fields had gone to pieces before this."

The following was received from O. G. Struss on March 21: "Have been spending some time at Wauchula and have gotten some good ideas that will help me in Alabama. They are very blue down there on their deal, because of the damage resulting from the rain. Some are speaking of practically no cucumbers, and potatoes are rotting in the ground."

IF YOU FAIL TO READ THE ENTIRE DIVISION LETTER EACH WEEK,
you may miss the most important thing in it for you.

7c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

In a letter recently received from F. L. Harkey, Chief of the South Carolina Division of Markets, the following statements occur regarding the shipping-point inspections to be made in South Carolina:

"The shippers seem to be lined up solidly for inspection of Irish potatoes. Movement is expected to begin around May 1, and we are getting ourselves set to take care of this deal.

"Our peach growers want shipping-point inspection on peaches, and we have promised them this, hoping to be able to take care of it at the same time the North Carolina crop is being inspected. We will load something like 150 cars of peaches at three or four shipping points. For example, McBee and Lugoff, which are near the North Carolina line, and at Greenville, Merivether, and Ridge Spring, which are some distance away from the State line.

"As to our cucumber deal, we will be able to give you the facts in a few days on how many cars our growers wish inspection. We are making a survey of the cucumber situation this week."

8c. SEPARATE FIELD CARBONS AND LETTERS TO WASHINGTON.

This office frequently finds a direct letter in the midst of a bunch of carbons received from branch offices. While all carbons of field letters are read before they go to the files, they are not given as prompt attention as direct letters, two or three days' receipts frequently accumulating on my desk. If a direct letter is covered up in these carbons, it may go unnoticed for several days instead of receiving the immediate attention it deserves. All offices, therefore, are requested to either send carbons and original letters to Washington in separate envelopes or, if there is only a small number of carbons, pin them on the back of the direct letter, so that it will receive prompt attention.

F. G. Robb,
Specialist in Inspection.

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF OF THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION
are invited to submit appropriate material
for "Crops and Markets." Articles
should be addressed to
Mr. Fiske's section.

OFFICE NOTES:

A letter has been received from O. D. Miller, in charge of the New York Market News office, to the effect that he expects to resign about May 15, to accept a position with Steinhardt & Kelly, prominent produce dealers on the Washington Street market in New York. It is understood that Mr. Miller will serve as field manager for Steinhardt & Kelly in the California, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado cantaloupe deals. The announcement of Mr. Miller's intention to leave Government work is received with sincere regret; his record of service will be published at a later date.

Mr. Robb went to Annapolis, Md., on Wednesday to confer with a committee of the Legislature which is considering legislation necessary to secure Federal-State inspection at shipping points in Maryland.

Robert Bier returned to Washington with Mr. Robb from the conference held at Onley, Va., last Saturday regarding inspection work on the Eastern Shore. Mr. Bier expects to leave again for the South on Sunday. He will stop at Pinehurst, N. C., to discuss with peach organizations in the Sandhill section the inspection of peaches at shipping points, and at Macon, Ga., to confer with officers of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange regarding similar work in that State. He probably will stop at Jacksonville, Fla., to confer with Commissioner L. M. Rhodes.

Latest word from Mr. Samson indicates that he was at Salinas, Calif., on Monday, and at Sacramento and San Francisco on succeeding days this week.

Mr. Stillwell was at Fort Worth, Texas, on Wednesday and Thursday, and planned to visit the following offices in the order named: Kansas City, Friday and Saturday; St. Louis, Monday and Tuesday, Memphis, Wednesday, returning to Washington by Friday morning.

A wire from H. Deane Phillips, Director of the New York Bureau of Markets, states that the inspection of potatoes at shipping points in western New York probably will be continued until April 15. James A. Marks is supervising this work, with headquarters at Avoca.

Lawrence Jones, of the State agricultural staff in Nevada, is in Los Angeles this week, taking inspection training under F. S. Kinsey and H. F. Larson, so as to be able to handle the inspection of lettuce, asparagus and other vegetables in the Moapa Valley of southern Nevada.

R. H. Lamb, who has been assisting with shipping-point inspections in Florida, will leave Palmetto by April 1 for Hammond, La., where he will issue market reports on strawberries.

C. H. Behnke will be transferred from Homestead to Palmetto, Fla., succeeding Mr. Lamb in charge of the inspection work in Manatee County. Most of his time will be devoted to tomatoes.

Within the next week W. H. Steinbauer, who has been local Inspector in Washington since November, will be transferred permanently to Boston, where he will assist Inspector G. W. Payne.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

M. C. Farnworth, at present in charge of inspection work at Sanford, Fla., will leave there early next week for Washington. He succeeds Mr. Steinbauer as local Inspector. George A. DeHaven will be temporarily in charge at Sanford.

The season's market reports at the following stations will be discontinued by April 1: Presque Isle, Me.; Rochester, N.Y.; Waupaca, Wis., and Spokane, Wash. A number of new field stations will be announced next week.

H. S. Stiles, who has been issuing potato reports at Presque Isle, will go to the Boston office to work up his summary of the Aroostook County deal and to assist in starting the distribution of market reports to Maine growers and dealers from the Boston office during the remainder of the season.

Although the publication of mimeographed bulletins will be discontinued at Rochester by Tuesday, C. L. Brown will remain at that office until the middle of April, completing his summaries of the various deals.

A. L. Thomas, radio operator in the Rochester office, will come to Washington by April 15, where he will handle the radio telegraphic work during the summer months. Mr. Thomas will take some leave between April 1 and 15.

After the closing of the Waupaca office this Saturday, W. H. Mosier will be on leave at 671 East Mound Street, Columbus, Ohio, until about April 10. He is scheduled to begin market reports on onions at Asherton, Texas, by the 15th.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry will remain in Spokane as usual, after the discontinuance of apple reports at that station. Spokane is a year-around office, and during the summer months Mrs. Gerry devotes her full time to railroad reports from local freight agents in the Northwest and to other miscellaneous duties.

The date for closing the potato news service at Idaho Falls, Idaho, has been changed again, this time to April 15. Mr. Prugh's departure for Laredo, Texas, has been further delayed, because of the lateness of onion shipments from Texas.

No definite word has been received as yet from C. E. Schultz concerning the closing date for lettuce market reports in the Imperial Valley, California. There is a possibility that this news service will be continued beyond April 1.

Mrs. Ethel Showalter Rice, who is to report for ^{her}duty in Mr. Patton's section next week, was bereaved by the sudden death of her husband on Sunday.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 14.

April 4, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SITUATION IN LONDON.

Interesting - very interesting! - is the following article, clipped from the London "Daily Telegraph" of March 14 and submitted by Commissioner Foley's office. Note particularly the price of strawberries, the German demand for grapes, the large output of fruit from Africa, the tricks of street vendors, the close relation of salmon and cucumbers in London, and the good description of an American apple orchard on top a high mountain from which the fruit is sent by a long aerial cable to the shipping station below:-

Demand for fruit has been very greatly strengthened by brighter weather in London, some importers experiencing quite a boom in sales. The fact that the wholesale price of strawberries has fallen to as low as 12s per lb. for cheaper grades, and to 25s to 35s per lb. for best quality, causes no excitement so far as the majority of fruit consumers is concerned. Germany and America are competing for possession of grapes, the spending craze being declared to be still strong in Germany, while the "dryness" of America has created a persistent clamour for the fruit of the vine there. In the circumstances the prime grapes arriving in great variety from South Africa are very welcome, and much appreciated. Peaches, pears, and plums from the same source are in splendid condition, the Kelsey plums in particular being very fine fruit of which large specimens are selling retail at 4d each. The pears are perfect at various prices, including Corice, Bon Chretien, Beurre Diel, Beurre Hardy, and Beurre Bosc. The Beurre Bosc is a large, long russety, or calabasse, pear of delicious flavour; the Beurre Hardy is of a very rich flavour; William's Bon Chretien is a very choice dessert fruit, and the Doyenne du Comice is known as "the best pear."

Peaches and plums are arriving from Australia and the Argentine, but the quantities from South Africa dwarf these supplies into insignificance. Some idea may be formed of the increased output of fruit from South Africa by comparison with previous years. Leaving out the citrus varieties, the total export for 1910 was only a little over 200,000 cases. In 1914 the total was about 450,000, and during last month alone nearly 320,000 cases were despatched to Southampton for distribution in this country, pears heading the list, followed in order as to quantity by grapes, plums, peaches, pineapples, nectarines, mangoes, grenadillas, and apples.

Citrus fruits are dearer, demand for oranges from Spain, Palestine, and Florida having increased considerably, the same applying to grapefruit from the West Indies, and Florida, and lemons from Spain and Sicily. Murcian and Valentian oranges have been rather short in supply, but there are still fair quantities of Seville sours and Palermo bitters for marmalade making. Bananas are sharing in the popular demand, and the danger of being "had" by unscrupulous traders has now passed, the fruit spoiled by the dock strike delay having been cleared. Many complaints were made of street vendors' dexterity in substituting inferior fruit in the place of what they were offering for sale.

It should be borne in mind that spotted peel does not indicate a poor interior, but quite the reverse.

Plenty of Apples.

American and Canadian apples are of excellent quality and plentiful. Fruit growers in this country will be interested to learn of methods adopted by some orchardists in America who have surmounted difficulties which would have deterred most producers. They planted fruit trees on a mountain top, the orchards being 3,300 ft. above the surrounding level, and water was brought seven miles by conduit. The fruit is conveyed $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles by an aerial cable from the packing-house to the despatch depot below. This aerial fruit cableway is said to be the only one of its kind, and cost \$50,000 to erect. The proprietors pay out \$11,000 a week in wages, have a model village for the employees, with a large store, school, church, dance hall, cinema hall, fire brigade, &c. Out of season the population is only 200, but when the gathering is in full swing about 600 hands are employed. As to the output of fruit, one firm of importers at Covent Garden has just been notified of the despatch to them of twenty freight cars of apples.

Most vegetables are making higher prices on short supplies, onions having advanced considerably. Savoy's are also dear, but cauliflowers have become cheaper on larger supplies coming from France, from which source there are plentiful quantities of lettuce and asparagus. Italian endive and Belgian chicory are costing more on shorter supplies. Potatoes are arriving from the Channel Islands, Canary Islands, Algiers, and the Azores, and old potatoes have fallen in value. With a fall in the cost of salmon, demand for cucumbers rose, and more came to market, but the sudden rise in the price of salmon has sent down the demand, and cucumbers have dropped to figures which must be very disappointing to the growers. Forced rhubarb has not been reaching London in such quantities as hitherto, and prices have risen, though some of it is of poor quality and foretells, coupled with arrivals of the ordinary outdoor variety, the approaching end of its season. One of the most attractive displays at Covent Garden is of Canary Island tomatoes. Supplies have been above demand, but the weather change has resulted in a rush for salads, and the call for tomatoes has become increasingly insistent during the week, yesterday's summerlike sunshine sending restaurateurs to Covent Garden for further supplies.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 29:

- Page 197 - Special paragraph on Sweet Potatoes in weekly review.
- 199 - Imperial Valley Lettuce Season Waning, - by C. E. Schultz.
 - Asparagus Season Opens.
 - New Field Stations to be Opened.
 - Movement of Florida celery (filler).
- 200 - Crop notes on Florida cucumbers and potatoes.
- 208 - British Aid to Agricultural Cooperation.

3a. IN THE MARCH SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

- Page 102 - Summary of January inspection work; in this summary practically all of the text had to be omitted because of lack of space.
- 103 - Carload Shipments for February, by States.
- 104 - Potato Holdings Light in Colorado, - by John D. Snow.
 - Summary of February inspection work.
- 105 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits for February.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ASPARAGUS CODE PAGE.

(REPLY)

It had been intended to prepare a code page for asparagus, based upon the market wires of the first two weeks, and send it to all markets for immediate use in preparing current asparagus wires. So little uniformity has been apparent in the grades reported by the various markets, however, that it has not been feasible to do so. In order to assist us in working up an asparagus code page, each market reporter is asked to write us a letter, outlining the asparagus situation in his market. Among other things, we are interested in the following:

1. Names and definitions of all grades now in use on your market for California asparagus, in descending order of size.
2. Whether all dealers employ identical grade terms for the same stock, or whether the No. 1 of one dealer is the same, for example, as the Extra Fancy of another.
3. Whether crates other than the 1-dozen pyramidal type been received from California?
4. Whether there is any difference in price between green and white asparagus, and which is more commonly received on your market.
5. Brief information as to containers, grades, and color of asparagus coming from other States, based on receipts during previous seasons.

2b. ST. LOUIS SUMMARY OF UNLOADS.

There seems to be a friendly rivalry between the various market stations in the matter of attractive and useful summaries of unload reports. One of the best to be issued is that from St. Louis. It contains 20 pages (10 long sheets) and a number of maps and graphs, which make it especially attractive. The maps are outline maps of the United States, traced on the stencils.

The first page gives comparative totals for 1922 and 1923 on nine leading fruits and vegetables. Annual and average daily totals are presented for both the receipts and the unloads, so as to show the relation between the two. Of the 15,227 cars of nine products received in 1922, unloads were 10,309 cars. Of the 1923 receipts totaling 13,904 cars, 9,457 were unloaded. A second table gives the unloads by States for these nine products and for the two years.

Separate sheets are devoted to the seven most important fruits and vegetables. On the front of the sheet is an outline map. Boxed figures in each State indicate the St. Louis unloads from that State; these are connected with St. Louis by converging lines. Within each State boundary also are indicated the production figures for 1923 and 1922 respectively. A graph also shows by different length bars the relation between receipts and unloads of that product in St. Louis. A small table gives commercial production in the U. S. and the total carlot shipments for the two years. On the reverse side of the sheet for each product is another graph, with rising and falling lines indicating the monthly unloads for 1923, compared with the five-year average. Similar graphs, but no maps, are given for strawberries and tomatoes.

A page or two of text emphasizes the sources of supply for the different fruits and vegetables, and calls attention to comparative figures for the last five years and to the main points brought out by the charts and maps.

3b. SUMMARY OF UNLOADS IN BOSTON.

The Boston office recently distributed a seven-page summary of the 1923 unloads in that market. It is well prepared and brings out the important facts with respect to the unloads and the carriers hauling the stuff to Boston. Particular attention is given to homegrown products, these data being obtained from the State Dept. of Agriculture which tabulates the receipts by truck and wagon.

The opening table shows the unloads of 15 fruits and vegetables by months during 1923, with comparative totals for the year 1922. Aggregate unloads for 1923 were 36,334 carloads, compared with 32,512 the year before. A separate table is then given for each product, showing the monthly receipts, segregated as to freight, express, boat, imports, and homegrown stock. The concluding set of tables shows the monthly receipts of each product by States, with comparative State totals for 1922. The entire report was prepared by Miss N. K. Callahan.

Arrivals by wagon and truck, listed as "homegrown," included the following items expressed in equivalent carloads:

Apples..... 859	Celery..... 230	Peaches.... 22	Strawberries 84
Cabbage..... 581	Onions..... 61	Potatoes... 51	Tomatoes....462

4b. ARRIVALS AND UNLOADS IN PITTSBURGH:

J. K. Boyd, of the Pittsburgh office, also has issued a complete summary of arrivals and unloads in that market during 1923, compared with 1922. The figures are given by States, the arrivals and the unloads from each State being on the same line; any miscellaneous or extra States are placed at the foot of the column. If all the pages of this summary have been received, it shows 19,234 cars of 13 products unloaded in 1923, against 19,560 cars the year before. The list includes potatoes, apples, celery, onions, cabbage, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, strawberries, cantaloupes, watermelons, peaches, grapes and pears. In addition, 924 cars of lettuce were unloaded in 1923. A review of this unloads summary appeared on page 6 of last week's "New York Packer."

5b. PRESS RELEASES IN SALT LAKE CITY.

The semi-annual report of activities from J. R. Duncan outlines as follows the work he has accomplished with newspapers in his territory:

"During the latter part of the shipping season, the Salt Lake City newspapers published the fruit and vegetable shipping-point information received over the leased wire, the shipments, and the local market report each day. During November and December, a weekly review of the local market was written and released to the daily papers. The publishers of the "Utah Farmer" started a market page in their paper last November, and our Salt Lake office is furnishing all market information on fruits and vegetables, and livestock and wool, which they use."

6b. DISCREPANCY IN APPLE EXPORTS REPORT.

In the I.A.S.A. report, released March 24 and covering the week ending March 15, it was noticed that a difference of 840 boxes of apples had slipped into the total exports to that date. R. G. Phillips, Secretary of the Association, explains that this difference is accounted for by a delayed report of the shipment of 840 boxes for Liverpool from San Francisco on the S.S. London Importer on March 4, which report was included in the total for the season.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions *	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 12
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 15
HAMMOND, LA.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Mar. 31	May 3

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 10	May 10
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 15	May 20
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	A. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 15	May 20
MEGETT, S. C.	858	Unassigned	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 15 May 10	May 15 June 10
CHADBOURN, N. C.	805	Unassigned	Berries	May 1	May 20
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	Unassigned	Berries	May 5	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	Unassigned	Berries	May 5	May 31

Temporary Assignments:

* Reports discontinued.
 **State Dept. cooperating.

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for inspection work.
 G. A. DeHaven)
 S. W. Russell, assisting in Atlanta office.
 W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.
 H. S. Stiles in Boston office.
 C. L. Brown in Rochester office.
 W. H. Mosier on leave in Columbus.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. USE OF SIZE CLASSIFICATION TERMS WITH GRADES:

In making grade statements covering products such as cabbage, where size classification is not a part of grade specifications, statements such as "U.S. No. 1, Small" should not be used. The size classification should be given separately, as is indicated by the specifications covering such products. The following statement is recommended: "Stock is small size and grades U.S. No. 1." If size specifications are written into the grades, as in the case of northern-grown onions, the size term should be connected with the grade statement. Example: "Stock meets requirements U.S. Grade No. 1, Medium."

2c. INSPECTIONS AT SANFORD, FLA.

Florida shipped 4,857 cars of celery up to and including March 29. The Sanford section had rolled 3,546 cars and the Manatee section 1,251 cars, with 60 from other parts of the State, according to reports from Sanford.

Total number of celery inspections made by the Sanford office to date is 1,057, or approximately 30% of the tonnage of the district.

The average yield for the entire season probably will be slightly over 2 cars per acre. About 730 acres are still to be harvested and the greater part of this stock will move during the month of April, with the remainder dragging on through May. Below is a tabulation of celery inspections made at Sanford by weeks from January 1 to March 29:

<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>Inspections</u>
January 5	10	February 23	100
" 12	31	March 1	81
" 19	88	" 8	100
" 26	104	" 15	57
February 2	46	" 22	89
" 9	166	" 29	101
" 16	84	Total to March 29.....	1,057

3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS AT HASTINGS, FLA.

On Wednesday, Mr. Mercker left for Hastings, to take charge of the potato inspection deal. Three local inspectors are being transferred to the Hastings office and others may be sent if the work increases. The deal will open up with a bang on April 10, provided the rains keep away for a while. Below is given the estimated acreage for Florida, handled by the biggest shippers located at Hastings:

Hastings Potato Growers' Association.....	6,420	acres
Bugbee Distributing Company.....	6,064	"
Nix Produce Company.....	2,865	"
G. W. Waller.....	2,194	"
Chase & Co.....	769	"

The largest producing sections consist of Hastings, with 7,155 acres; Elkton, with 3,258 acres; East Palatka, with 1,450 acres; and Bunnell, with 1,444 acres.

4c. PEACH POOLING SYSTEMS.

W. N. Scott, of the American Fruit Growers, and A. E. Mercker, of our Orlando office, have had several conferences and have drawn up a set of peach pooling systems. These systems were to be presented to the Candor Fruit Growers' Association, Candor, N.C., and the Pinehurst Fruit Growers' Association of Pinehurst, N. C., on Monday or Tuesday of this week. They are practically identical to those devised by Mr. Mercker last season and used by the Sandhill Fruit Growers' Association, Aberdeen, N.C.

According to word received from Dr. R. W. Leiby, Entomologist at Aberdeen, N. C., the estimated production of the Sandhill peach crop will be about 2,750 cars. Practically the entire tonnage will be inspected at shipping point.

5c. NAVY DEPARTMENT DEBARS TWO FIRMS FROM FUTURE CONTRACTS.

Two firms in Philadelphia were recently debarred by the Navy Department from bidding on future contracts. One of the firms had a contract last October to furnish butter, and sublet this contract to a second firm. The contract required that before delivery the butter must be inspected by a Food Products Inspector of the Department of Agriculture. Fifty tubs of butter were inspected by L. E. Gaylord and stamped 92 score, as required by the specifications of the contract. On the following day, fifty tubs were delivered bearing the stamp of Mr. Gaylord, but, due to the condition of the butter, it was suspected that a substitution of butter other than that which had been inspected had been made. This proved to be true when a second examination was made by Mr. Gaylord who found that the substituted butter scored about 88 instead of 92. The facts in the case were thoroughly investigated by the Navy Department and, under date of March 15, both the contractor and the sub-contractor were advised by the Navy Department that "The transaction referred to above makes you an undesirable bidder on supplies for the Naval Service and you are accordingly advised that 'your firm,' together with all officers and members thereof, are hereby debarred from further business relations with the Navy."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

1d. SPECIAL CIRCULARS ON STANDARD CONTAINERS.

Mention of the special circulars, recently prepared by H.A. Spilman, has been deferred until a sufficient supply was on hand to permit of distribution to our branch offices and field stations. These two papers are of interest to all technical employees, and copies are being sent this week to all offices. The titles of the circulars are as follows:-

"Outline Showing Present and Proposed Standardization of Fruit and Vegetable Containers." (dated March 1, 1924)

"Suggested Sectional Standards for Vegetable Crates." (undated)

Copies of these circulars have been distributed to 550 package manufacturers, about 50 State marketing officials, and 970 County Agents in 21 States. They are worthy of careful reading.

OFFICE NOTES:

About a week ago, Mr. Sherman started for Minneapolis, where he was to take part in a conference regarding the inspection of butter in that region. Flooding of the Potomac River and consequent interruption to traffic on the B. & O. Railroad near Cumberland, Md., made it necessary for the train on which Mr. Sherman was riding to be sent by a circuitous route, which delayed him so much as to prevent his attendance at the Minneapolis meeting. However, Mr. Sherman did visit our Chicago and Pittsburgh offices on Monday and Tuesday, conferring with representatives of this Division. He returned to Washington on Wednesday. Yesterday and today, he was on a trip to Baltimore.

Leaving this Saturday night, Mr. Sherman expects to make a two or three weeks' tour through the South in the interest of shipping-point inspection work. He will stop at Nashville, Tenn., and at Jackson, Miss., to confer with State officials, and then probably will go to points in Louisiana and other States.

Mr. Stillwell returned to his desk on Thursday morning, after a month's trip to line up the market reporting work in southern producing sections. He advises that the State agencies are interested in the market news service and are cooperating with the Federal Bureau. Work at the several market stations visited is progressing nicely, and some new lines of service are being developed. Increased interest by growers and shippers is manifested everywhere.

Mr. Samson's recent wires have been from Sacramento, and it is understood that he will remain in California for at least the next few days.

F. S. Kinsey, who has been on leave in Los Angeles, will report for duty in Mississippi next week, to supervise inspections of peas, tomatoes, cabbage, etc., at shipping points in that State. His headquarters may be at Jackson, though this is not yet definitely known. Mr. Kinsey will meet Mr. Sherman at Jackson, to discuss the details of this new work.

En route to New York City last Saturday, B. E. Yaden, formerly with the Food Products Inspection Service, stopped at the Washington office a short while. Since resigning from Government service, he has been associated with the Stewart Fruit Company, Chicago, and has now been placed in charge of the New York office of that company.

It is understood that O. G. Strauss, who supervised inspections in the Lakeland section of Florida, will proceed to Mobile, Ala., within a few days, to conduct the inspection work on vegetables in that territory.

A. E. Mercker should now be addressed at Hastings, Fla., instead of Orlando. He is supervising potato inspections in the Hastings district.

The departure of W. H. Steinbauer for Boston has been delayed a few days. N. C. Farnworth is expected to reach Washington, from Sanford, Fla., this Saturday. He succeeds Mr. Steinbauer as local Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

We regret to announce the resignation of S. D. Main, technical assistant in the New York Market News Office, effective April 17. Mr. Main has been in the F. & V. Division exactly seven months. After taking training in the Washington office, he assisted Mr. Biddle, in Philadelphia, for a while, and then was given the New York assignment. He has accepted a position in his home town in New Jersey.

Next Wednesday, H. A. Spilman expects to attend a meeting of the National Basket and Fruit Package Manufacturers Association at Cincinnati. He will discuss matters of package standardization, particularly crates.

Starting next Monday, F. M. Patton will make a trip of about four days' duration, visiting railroad officials in Chicago, Memphis, St. Louis, Louisville, and Pittsburgh.

Word received from State officials in North Carolina indicates that the Chadbourne strawberry deal is delayed until about May 1.

H. V. DeMott, auditor in the Domestic Wool Section, leaves tonight for Boston, where he will audit certain wool dealers' reports. He may be in Boston for a month.

A report of March 1 potato holdings was distributed under date of March 28. Copies can be obtained from Washington, if your office has not received an adequate supply.

Local shippers have advised that the strawberry output from the Judsonia district in Arkansas this season will be about 750 cars, of which 175 will come from Judsonia. All other stations in the district will have considerable less acreage than last year, the result of unfavorable weather conditions of the two previous years and consequently low prices. First cars are expected by May 3.

A week or ten days ago, both W. H. Hall and G. D. Clark, of the Chicago office, were sick with the "flu," having to be absent quite a number of days. In this interval, E. P. Lemott handled part of the market reporting work and did it quite efficiently.

F. Earl Parsons visited the Washington office today. He reports that the work on standardization and inspections in the State of Virginia will be enlarged considerably this season.

INDIANAPOLIS OFFICE address has been changed to 128-130 East Washington Street. Mr. Rowell, Inspector, now is located in Rooms 637 and 639, Meyer-Kiser Bank Bldg., at the above street address. Please make this change on your list of Food Products Inspection offices.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, No. 5, Vol. 15

April 11, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. THE PAPA AND OTHER FRUITS.

Don't fail to read these most interesting and enlightening articles from London. It is understood that they are written by the secretary of one of the leading produce organizations in England, who exhibits not only an acquaintance with market conditions but also a knowledge of literature as well. These weekly reviews are well worth your time in reading.

The following clipping from the London "Daily Telegraph" of March 21 contains these points of special interest: The effect of an election day on the produce market; the varied sources of large supplies of fruit; weather conditions in relation to London sales; the re-exports of fruit to Germany; the exclusion of certain vegetables from France; the large crop of onions in Egypt, and particularly a most interesting discussion of the PAPA:-

Covent Garden and Elections.

Covent Garden has been considerably disturbed by the by-election in the Abbey Division of Westminster, of which it forms part; but most of the open-air meetings, and a good deal of the canvassing, has been after the rush hours of the early morning, indeed, at a time when most of the people in the market area were visitors and unable to influence the result by votes. Three meetings being held simultaneously in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's Church--which figures in many prints of incidents at elections in past centuries--would have been impossible during the height of the market trade. So the disturbance has not been really serious to business, which has shown some improvement, though it has not risen to a full appreciation of the wonderful displays of choice fruit, among which the plentiful supplies of pears, grapes, and plums from South Africa hold a premier position. From the same source are peaches, pineapples, nectarines, mangoes, apples, and grenadillas, while pomegranates and prickly pears are just starting. The Argentine and Australia are also contributing pears, peaches, and plums. The South African pineapples must not be despised because of lack of size, the flavour being delicious.

Weather has had much to do with better business, a brighter London bathed in sunshine helping more than anything. An epidemic of influenza will not sell that fine remedy, the orange, so well as a spell of sunshine, and Spanish, Jaffa, Floridan, and Californian oranges have been selling freely, Spanish and Sicilian lemons and West Indian and Floridan grape fruit sharing in the improved demand. Jaffa oranges will be more plentiful next week, 10,000 cases being due to arrive in London on Monday. American and Canadian apples are meeting with a better sale, Belgian and South African grapes have also improved in popularity, and up to 30s per lb. wholesale is being paid for strawberries.

(Page 155)

(continued over)

An Aid to Digestion.

Many people have heard recently for the first time of a tropical fruit known as the papaw, "the fair papaw," as Waller wrote of it in his "Battle of the Summer Islands." To anyone who is familiar with the West Indies it needs no introduction. There it is regarded as a valuable aid to digestion, and the question is being asked as to why we cannot obtain it in this country. Before attempting to answer, it is well to state something about the papaw tree, the *Carica Papaya*, deriving its name from Caria, in Asia Minor, where it is supposed by some to have originated. It is a remarkable plant, the soft, spongy stem growing 18ft. to 20ft. high, tapering from about a foot in diameter at the base, and crowned with a tuft of large, longstalked, palmately-lobed leaves. Flowers are succeeded by melon-shaped fruit of a dingy orange colour, which is eaten raw or cooked, and is usually gathered half-grown. The ripe fruit is also made into sauce or preserved in sugar. One use of the unripe fruit is as an aid to the removal of sun freckles, and the leaves are employed as a substitute for soap. The tree is without branches, the leaf growing from the stem. The milky juice of the tree is declared to have the property of rendering the toughest meat tender, and even the flesh of pigs and poultry which feed on the leaves is certain to be tender. It is almost a pity to add the statement of an authority that the fruit is "more wholesome than palatable." This concise description suggests a great deal of thought by importers with experience of such things as the mango, "choicest of Nature's delicacies"; the grenadilla, with "a flavour nothing can exceed"; the avocado pear, with "the delicate rich flavour of the peach, but infinitely more grateful"; and other products not generally included in the fruit section of the ordinary person's diet. Expensive propaganda would be necessary to "educate" the public to the advantages of a fruit "more wholesome than palatable," while such things as the mango, grenadilla, and avocado only appeal to those who have lived part of their lives where they are served and eaten as a matter of course. Even such vitally important fruits as the orange and apple have had to be "pushed" by the trade, notwithstanding the low price and excellent quality.

German Demand.

Some of the finest apples ever imported into this country have had to be cleared at unremunerative prices, consumers failing to appreciate the health value, or money being what is called "tight." While demand for fruit has ebbed here, it has gone so high in Germany that large quantities intended for home consumption have been re-exported to Germany at extravagant prices compared with the best returns obtainable here. So far this year, the re-exports of fruit have been over seven times greater than during the corresponding period of last year, Germany being the principal buyer. Incidentally, before the war Germany made a special effort to popularise papaw and failed. With reference to the wrapping of meat in papaw leaves to make it tender, there was formerly a demand at Covent Garden for vine leaves for enveloping small birds, but it has quite gone out. On the whole, it may be taken for granted that, if the papaw was likely to be a paying proposition, it would very soon be on sale in the West-end, but, at present, the prospect is not promising enough to induce a pioneer to come along.

(Continued on next page)

Strange application of the decree as to the export of French produce is being experienced. Batavia, celeriac, and endive have not been permitted to come over, but artichokes, asparagus, lettuce, and cauliflowers have. There are fair supplies of French cauliflowers, supplemented by some from Italy. Canary tomatoes are plentiful and cheap. Onions are scarce and dear, but the first of the best, the Egyptian, have now arrived. A crop of 50 per cent above all previous records is forecasted. Green vegetables are generally scarce. France has been placing Algerian new potatoes on her list of banned exports. Seakale and forced rhubarb are cheaper. Cucumbers are more plentiful, Lea Valley growers having started their season.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 5:

- Page 213 - Special paragraph on Potatoes in weekly review.
214 - Canary Island Tomatoes a Possibility at New York.
215 - Colorado Potato Prices Advance, - by John D. Snow.
- Distribution of California Deciduous Fruits.
224 - Peanut Imports from the Orient.
- Exports from July 1 to February 29, 1922-23 and 1923-24, of fresh and dried apples; prunes, apricots and raisins.
215 - Fruit Marketing in Yakima Valley.

3a. CONDITIONS AT WAUCHULA AND ARCADIA, FLA.

In a letter of April 4, B. E. Shaffer, who is now located at Arcadia, wrote the following:

"The farmers that I met coming in today were more optimistic than they formerly were. They feel that they will have better crops than they anticipated a few days ago. Some cucumbers will come in next week, as well as some beans. Tomatoes are looking fairly good, but there will not be much doing in this line before the 1st of May. Cucumbers will come in small lots, and watermelons are just starting to bloom, with the vines about one to two feet long. They think that some melons will be ready for shipment by the 1st of June.

"I believe that the Wauchula deal will be a larger proposition than the deal here at Arcadia. The crops will be scattered along about the same as they will be at Arcadia. They are loading out each day about a car of potatoes, but have very few beans and cucumbers. What they have will be very late. They will have more tomatoes than usual, as farmers have planted cucumber ground and potato ground to tomatoes."

4a. MOVEMENT OF CABBAGE IN ALABAMA.

In a recent communication from O. G. Strauss, who is now located at Mobile, Ala., the following information concerning the movement of cabbage was given:

"There is going to be a goodly number of loading points on the Mobile side of the bay at least. From observation, cabbage will make about the 20th. We are having a good rain now, which may start shipments a few days sooner, but I hardly think so."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. PLACE ORDERS FOR MINEOGRAPH SUPPLIES BEFORE THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

Mimeograph supplies, which will be needed before the end of the fiscal year, should be ordered in the very near future. Sufficient quantities should be ordered to last through September, so as to allow sufficient time for delivery on orders placed after July 1. All branch offices, therefore, are requested to forward requisitions at once for the necessary mimeograph paper, envelopes, stencils and ink. No allowance need be made for quantities which you may be called upon to ship to temporary field stations, as the Washington office will make provision for such needs when placing orders. Joint offices will requisition such supplies whose cost must be borne by the Fruit and Vegetable Division. If your free storage space is limited, please advise us regarding this situation.

2b. MARKET NEWS WORK IN SAN FRANCISCO.

In the semi-annual report from C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office the following paragraphs appear:

"We are often asked by the newspapers to write special articles on various commodities and quite frequently give them a paragraph or two. A special artichoke article, recently written for 'Weather, Crops and Markets,' (page 698, Dec. 29) was published in a monthly agricultural report issued by the Commercial Trust and Savings Bank. Lack of time and funds for making rural trips has made it necessary to limit this service.

"The Daily Miscellaneous Report is used by the following newspapers, which send messengers to this office each morning and secure the earliest edition, San Francisco Examiner, Chronicle, Call, Post, Daily News, and the Bulletin which uses only the receipts. The Oakland Tribune and Post Enquirer, of Oakland, Calif., telephone this office each day for the market changes and receipts which are published in their papers.

"The following Press Associations send representatives daily to secure the reports: Associated Press, United Press, Universal Press, and the International Press.

"The daily reports are being broadcast by radio from the following stations: San Francisco Examiner, Oakland Tribune, and the General Electric Company of Oakland, Calif. The San Francisco Examiner broadcasts at 11:00 a.m. and the Oakland Tribune and General Electric Company at 7 and 8 p.m. respectively. On all of these broadcasts, we are given credit for their accuracy and authenticity. The Oakland Tribune takes the liberty of advertising its station as the 'Official U. S. Department of Agriculture Broadcasting Station.' We have received a few letters from parties with radio receiving sets, asking about the official source of the reports and expressing the pleasure with which the reports are being received."

3b. CROP REPORTS BY MEN IN PRODUCING SECTIONS.

Since Mr. Park has been working as contact man between this Division and the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, arrangements have been made whereby our representatives in producing sections furnish such crop information as they can obtain. Where these reports cover an entire district, they are published as separate sheets. The first two of these separate reports are:

Imperial Valley Truck Crop Conditions, by C. E. Schultz, March 28.

Vegetable Crops in San Diego County, by Walter Kingsbury, March 29.

4b. NORTHWESTERN FRUIT ORGANIZATION.

A clipping has been received from one of the northwestern newspapers, in which the following article appeared under the date line, Yakima, March 27. It apparently was written by Edwin Smith, and indicates the enlarged news service on apples and other fruits, desired by this new organization. The article (or, rather, the first part of the article) follows:

The Northwest Fruit Growers' Commission last night made public its plan for organization at a meeting with the board of directors of the Horticultural Union at the Commercial Hotel. Among the principal features of the organization plans are district sales offices in the shipping sections. These would handle a limited number of cars functioning under a Central Exchange for the whole Northwest. The plans also contemplate the formation of new growers' organizations to work side by side with the older cooperatives without disastrous competition between the various groups of organized growers.

With practically no northwestern sales organization that it might call its own east of the Rocky Mountains, the commission would start building an efficient sales machine in the eastern markets, as well as foreign countries.

The program of organization is along the lines of permanency and contemplates building its grower organizations solidly over a period of years. The commission goes further than this and recommends an extension of the market news service of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics to the end of publishing daily information covering the following sales as made that day, with frequent checks of the order books of the various shippers; number of cars rolling unsold, with their market destination; proportion of such cars destined to eastern storage; cars arriving and on track, waiting sale in principal markets of the United States; daily number of cars of apples cleared for export, with their port of destination and daily arrivals in the principal foreign markets. The commission is considering the development of this character of service with Federal authorities.

The commission firmly believes that a northwestern organization of growers should begin with the use of existing cooperative organizations, building in a way that will not lessen the degree of success that such organizations have obtained through years of hardship and investment, but that will add to their present strength and efficiency. The structure of the organization consists of:

1. Local associations of growers for pooling fruit, packing, warehousing, and distributing supplies to growers.
2. Sub-exchanges to sell the fruit of a group of local associations, and
3. A central exchange to maintain a sales organization in the markets of the world; assemble and disseminate sales information; serve as an advisory sales agency, cooperating with the sub-exchanges in making sales; supervise sales in foreign markets, administer advertising and carry on market exploitation; purchase supplies and perform all of the many industrial services that should receive the united attention and force of the growers of the Northwest.

5b. THREE NEW FIELD STATION SUMMARIES:

Western New York Potato Deal, Season 1922-23, by C. L. Brown.

Georgia Peach Deal, Season 1923, by Geo. E. Prince.

Red River Valley Potato Deal, Season 1923-24, by J. W. Park.

These three summaries have been distributed during the past ten days.

They are very comprehensive reviews of these respective field deals.

6b. COMMENDATION OF ST. LOUIS OFFICE.

On April 1, the following letter was written by Biederman Brothers Produce Company, St. Louis, to the Washington office: "We desire to offer a word of praise and our sincere appreciation for the service that has been rendered by your St. Louis division.

"The information that they have been good enough to furnish us with reference to the movement to eastern markets of the various commodities, together with the movement at shipping points which was given to us over telephone, has been the means of saving us a great deal of money.

"We cannot speak too highly of this service, as we are distributing a great many commodities very heavily and, by being able to secure this information early, it has been the means of a more sane and profitable distribution, and we take this means of letting you know how grateful we are that your Department is in a position to render the shippers, as well as the receivers, such valuable aid."

7b. REVIEW OF 1923 STRAWBERRY SEASON IN CHICAGO.

Under date of March 15, W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, issued a very complete review of the 1923 strawberry season in that market. Opening remarks are made concerning the importance of market information and a careful use of all shipment, arrival and price data at hand, in order to bring about an intelligent and profitable distribution of the crop. Acreage figures for the early and intermediate States are given for the years 1920 to 1924 inclusive.

Detailed tables, extending lengthwise on the 15-inch mimeograph paper, are devoted to a statistical review of each month of the 1923 season. Using a separate heading or grouping for each important shipping State, the shipments are shown for each day of the month, together with the carlot arrivals in Chicago and the jobbing prices. Enlightening remarks are inserted across the page at the bottom of tables. The review includes seven pages, and copies can be obtained from Mr. Hall by men operating field stations on strawberries and by any of our market reporters in consuming centers.

8b. RADIO MARKET NEWS.

Attached to this Division Letter is a copy of a recent memorandum by Mr. Marquis, Director of Information, on RADIO MARKET NEWS. This is of special importance to all market reporters, whether in cities or producing districts, and will be of interest also to the Inspectors. Read it carefully.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions *	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	May 10 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Apr. 12?
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus Fruit	Jan. 16	Apr. 26
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Apr. 1	May 3
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 12	May 20

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Frugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 18	May 20
MEGETT, S. C.**	858	H. S. Stiles	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 15 May 10	May 15 June 10
MOBILE, ALA. **	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 25 May 15 May 15	May 30 June 25 June 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.**	805	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 1	May 20
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	G. A. DeHaven	Berries	May 5	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 5	May 31

The following stations close on dates indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Closed Apr. 15
SANFORD, FLA. Court House	910	F. H. Scruggs	Celery	Jan. 14	Apr. 10

* Reports discontinued.

** State Dept. cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for inspection work.
G. A. DeHaven)
W. J. Bertush to New York City inspection work.
G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office.
H. S. Stiles in Boston office.
C. L. Brown in Rochester office.
W. H. Mosier on leave in
Columbus.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. CALIFORNIA INSPECTIONS REACH HIGH MARK.

A letter of April 2, from Mr. Samson at Sacramento, contains the following interesting item regarding California inspections:

"The popularity of the California service is attested by the fact that over 850 shippers called for inspections since the beginning of the fiscal year. Total number of inspections has now passed the 41,000 mark, with prospects of passing the 45,000 figure before the end of the fiscal year. California inspectors are now trying to live up to their slogan: 'California leads the world in standardization.'"

2c. IDAHO INSPECTION WORK AND POTATOES.

The large number of inspections made at Idaho shipping points and the volume of No. 2 potatoes now being marketed are emphasized in the following letter of March 29 from L. G. Schultz:

"Before leaving Boise for a ten days' trip to the eastern part of the State, I wish to advise that the inspection work as a general thing is moving along in a very satisfactory manner. This month promises to be the banner month for potato inspections this season and, if the present rate continues, we will have 1,500 potato certificates and about 100 apple inspections. This will bring our total for the season for all commodities to approximately 17,000 certificates. Since there are about 1,500 cars of potatoes left for shipment and, as there will be some lettuce to inspect in June, our total for the fiscal year should be 18,000 cars.

"A considerable amount of the present shipments of potatoes is composed of poor-quality stock, which they are now able to market at a profit. The good stock will always sell and will stand storage, while the No. 2 potatoes will not; hence the later shipments should be of better quality. There is no doubt but that the shipment of this low-grade stock has very materially increased the total movement of potatoes from Idaho this year, as in ordinary seasons all stock that would not grade No. 1 was wasted or used for feeding purposes on the farm. The future effect of the shipment of such a large volume of the No. 2 potatoes remains to be seen, but I do not agree with some that any great amount of damage has been done to the industry as a whole."

A letter of March 30 from G. E. Prince, of the Idaho Falls ^{station,} adds the following information on this subject:

"Shippers feel that their estimates of potatoes remaining to be shipped as of March 20 are going to prove slightly low, due to the quantity of culls and No. 2's now moving, but think that the crop will be cleaned up earlier than usual. **** Since the spring is late and prices fairly good, growers are cleaning up as rapidly as possible, in order that their other work will not be delayed, once it starts. They also remember the temporary flurry last April and the later rapid decline."

BE SURE TO TELL WASHINGTON ABOUT IT,
IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR D.L. REGULARLY EACH WEEK.

3c. REVISED U. S. GRADES FOR BERMDA ONIONS.

Copies of the revised Bermuda onion grades are being distributed with this Division Letter. The following important changes should be noted: - Size has been taken out of the grade specifications and is given under a separate heading. Three classes are established; Small, Medium and Large. No minimum size is specified in the different grades, but it is provided that, unless otherwise specified, onions shall meet the requirements of the Medium class. Size tolerances are provided.

The tolerance for U. S. Grade No. 1, has been changed to 10%, which includes pinks, but not more than 2% will be allowed for watersoaked, decayed, or sunscalded onions.

No. 2 of the revised grades does not exclude doubles and permits 15% of pinks. The tolerance is the same as for No. 1.

A special classification is made to cover pinks. If more than 15% by weight are noticeably pink, but the onions otherwise conform to the requirements of the No. 1 or No. 2 grade, the onions shall be designated as U. S. No. 1 Pink or U.S. No. 2 Pink.

It should be noted that tolerances for grade defects and for size are all on the basis of weight.

The definitions of terms should be studied carefully, for there are some important changes and additions.

It is expected that these grades will be largely used this season in both Texas and California, and all receiving-point inspections should be made in accordance with the revised specifications.

4c. NEW SHIPPING-POINT DEALS.

Shipping-point inspection work has been begun within the last few days or will be started within the next few days at the following places:

Mobile, Ala. - O. G. Strauss, In Charge.

Cucumbers, Cabbage, Beans.

Laredo, Texas - H. T. Longino, In Charge.

Onions.

Asherton, Texas - C. D. Shirley, In Charge.

Onions.

Jackson, Miss. - F. S. Kinsey, In Charge.

Beans, Cabbage, Potatoes, Beets, and other small vegetables.

5c. NOTATIONS ON PINK COPIES OF FEE BILLS.

Whenever a statement is sent out regarding an unpaid fee bill, notation of the date of the statement should be made on the upper right corner of the pink fee slip. This will make it easy to go through the files of unpaid bills once each week and determine on which ones additional statements should be sent.

The way in which the collection of fees is handled in an office is an excellent indication of the business ability of the Inspector in charge. Be sure that your records always show just what bills are unpaid and also what efforts have been made to secure payment of same.

6c. WEEKLY AND MONTHLY REPORTS.

All offices are requested to send in both Weekly and Monthly Reports on the last day of the period covered, unless prevented by circumstances over which the Inspector in charge has no control.

It is quite important to have this information in Washington promptly and, while most of our offices have been prompt in this matter, there always are a few that delay mailing their reports to such an extent that it is sometimes necessary to get the information by wire. Please see that this is handled properly in your office.

Monthly and Weekly Reports should be sent direct to this office and should not be mailed to Audits and Accounts, as has been the practice of some of our men in the past.

7c. REINSPECTION COPIES TO STATES.

A number of our State Supervisors complain that receiving-point Inspectors have not furnished them with copies of reinspections, as has been directed. This is highly important. The shipping-point Supervisor is not in position to take up such a matter with the inspector whose certificate has been reversed until he has in hand the copy of the reinspection certificate. Lists of the addresses of Supervising Inspectors in charge of the various State deals have been sent to all offices. If you do not have such a list, advise us at once.

8c. COLORADO CANTALOUPE AND LETTUCE.

The following items of interest are taken from the Weekly News Letter of the Colorado Inspection Service, dated April 4:

"The inspection of Colorado cantaloupes is controlled by a special cantaloupe law. This law specifies that all shipments must be inspected and that no cantaloupes unfit for food shall be shipped. Less-than-carlot shipments are not inspected.

"Mr. McKune spent the past four days (April 1-4) in the Rocky Ford-Ordway districts, conferring with the leading producers and distributors of cantaloupes. All are in favor of cooperating with the Government, if a better and more careful inspection can be obtained. At present, it appears very probable that we will be able to arrange some kind of an agreement, whereby Colorado cantaloupes will be inspected jointly by the Government and State.

"On April 12 a meeting will be held in Rocky Ford for the purpose of discussing cantaloupe inspection. This meeting is to be held in the interest of a better agricultural organization. All producers, bankers and distributors are invited to be present. The Denver office will have a representative at the meeting to discuss and outline the methods of Federal inspection."

"The S. A. Gerrard Company has requested Federal-State inspection on all their lettuce shipments for the coming season. They have agreed to make good any deficit incurred, if such, in the conducting of these inspections. The Gerrard Company operates in the district above Del Norte, Florence, Pueblo, Hillside and Westcliffe. At present, they estimate that they will ship at least 600 cars of lettuce, cauliflower, and peas."

9c. COLORADO POTATOES CLEANING UP.

Neal D. Sanborn, writing from Monte Vista, Colo., recently advised that the San Luis Valley will ship approximately 200 more cars of potatoes this season. The advance in prices has caused many growers to re-sort the cull pile and to ship out a large number of potatoes which are termed "egg size."

The Eagle district of Colorado inspected more cars of potatoes the first week of April than it has since the middle of February. F. A. Powell personally handled two-thirds of these recent inspections. The Delta district is practically cleaned up.

10c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS:

Inspections made during the period March 16 to 31 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Clearwater.....	22	Grapefruit.....	129
Fort Myers.....	72	Oranges.....	31
Homestead.....	182	Mixed Citrus.....	7
Leesburg.....	69	Total.....	167
Orlando.....	12	Celery.....	252
Palmetto.....	81	Tomatoes.....	182
Sanford.....	192	Cabbage.....	72
Winter Haven.....	43	Total.....	506
TOTAL.....	673	GRAND TOTAL.....	673

In the Division Letter for March 28, Par. 5c, inspections for the first half of March were tabulated. Grand total this season to the middle of March was given as 4,550 cars. By adding the 673 cars inspected during the second half of the month, the total to March 31 is 5,223. Daily average inspections, which were 54 the first half of March, had decreased to 52 the latter part of the month. Total vegetable inspections since the beginning of this service last November are 3,585, and total citrus fruits 1,638 cars.

11c. INSPECTION OF FLORIDA PINEAPPLES.

At a meeting held Friday, April 4, at West Palm Beach, E. E. Conklin, Jr., consulted the shippers and growers concerning pineapple grades. Resolutions were passed by those present to use the tentative U.S. Pineapple Grades. There will be about 300 cars shipped from the East Coast section, the movement starting May 15 and lasting until July 15. It is planned to have inspections made at Stuart, Delray, and Ft. Pierce.

12c. NEWS FROM MOBILE, ALA.

Part of a letter of April 7, from O. G. Strauss, at Mobile, is quoted below for the information of Inspectors and others:

"This deal will start with cabbage, and we will likely make our first inspection between April 15 and 18. Practically all, if not the entire tonnage, of this commodity will be shipped from this side of the Bay. The only factor lined up for inspections so far is the Gulf Coast Produce Exchange. They have about nine shipping points, located from Coden to Wilmer, and estimate about 100 cars. I expect this to move out fast, after looking the crop over. More than an inch of rain fell last Thursday and Thursday night, and the crop looks good. If the worms are kept under control, I believe the quality will be good. As you know, it is unusually late for this deal to open, and the weather will likely be more favorable for worms than during ordinary years".

13c. CAN INTERESTING INSPECTION TRIP IN OREGON.

Mr. Ringer reports a very busy and interesting day on April 3. It included a 345-mile ride by auto, inspection of three cars of potatoes, dinner on 10-inch T-bone steaks, and some successful angling for 8 to 16-inch trout in a nearby stream while part of one car was being resorted. From 6 A. M. to 12:20 A. M. makes a rather long day. Mr. Ringer reports some compensation in the wonderful scenery, the excellent "grub," and general satisfaction of all interested parties.

14c. GOOD RESULTS FROM OREGON GRADING AND INSPECTION LAW.

A mimeographed release of April 2, issued by the State Market Agent Department from its office at Portland, contains the following statements:-

"Before the potato grading and inspection law was put into enforcement by the State Market Agent, Oregon potatoes were considered the poorest stock on the Pacific Coast markets. Today they are heading the markets. This shows what grading and an honest pack can do.

"Before grading, labeling and inspection were enforced, the Department of Agriculture of San Francisco made the published statement that Oregon potatoes were the riskiest stock on the San Francisco market, and the only way the dealers would touch them was on consignment. The Marketing Assistant stated that Washington and Idaho potatoes had always found a good demand there.

"Recent Federal market quotations from San Francisco are as follows: Oregon, U. S. No. 1, \$2.35-2.40; Yakima, \$1.90-\$2; Idaho, \$2.25-2.30. Los Angeles quotations; Oregon Burbanks, U. S. No. 1, \$2.60-\$3; Idaho \$2.40. Portland quotations: U. S. No. 1, \$2.25-\$3; No. 2, \$1.50-1.75.

"Enforcement of this law has brought the Oregon potato up from a take-your-chance consignment risk to topping the California market price. The State Market Agent thinks it has well been worth while. While the law has the loop holes of most new laws and it would have been difficult to have enforced it with a club, yet the Market Agent Department has had the cooperation of nearly all dealers, retail merchants and big growers, and the law has worked out most satisfactorily. The supply has been reduced by keeping the cull stock on the farms for feed; the demand has been greatly increased by the consumers having confidence in the established grades, and there is confidence on the part of both growers and dealers that Oregon will have a future big place in the best markets."

15c. VEGETABLE SITUATION AT FORT MYERS, FLA.

The following letter, written by E. E. Hooper, on April 4, is a good summary of conditions in the Fort Myers Section of Florida:

"According to the various shippers of vegetables in this town, the acreage of truck crops planted in this section was as follows:

Potatoes	500 acres	Cabbage	100 acres
Eggplant	300 acres	Beans	250 acres
Squash	100 acres	Tomatoes	200 acres
Cucumbers , , , 1	200 acres	Peppers	600 acres
Okra	Few Patches	Strawberries	Local Con-
Watermelons	" "		sumption

"Two crops per year are harvested, -fall and spring. The fall crop this season was up to expectations, but the spring crop (as things look now) will be a failure. The reason for this is evident: The favorable weather, without the usual fall floods, enabled the fall plantings to produce heavily. In 1922 hardly anything moved out of this town before the first of the year. This season most of the fall crop had moved by the first of January. Peak of the movement was from December 20 to January 10. The spring crop was given a severe set-back by the cold weather and heavy rains of February. Hence, the crop will be short.

"At this time, peppers are very small; about 20% of the stock brought to the packing houses is packing Fancy. During the fall, truck crops here were selling for nothing. In fact, so low were the prices that many of the growers are now selling their Fords. During the off-season prices were exceedingly high; peppers selling here as high as \$6.00 for Fancy; but there were very few to sell. The whole success of trucking in this section is to get produce to market before the people up-State. This year the unfavorable weather has kept the farmers from doing this. The f.o.b. prices the first of this week were high and demand good, but the buyers were bearish on account of reports that Palmetto and East Coast shippers were starting heavy. The last few days saw a decided slump in the f.o.b. market. Quality of stock is just fair, due to the desire of shippers to get in before the drop. Hence much immature stock is being packed.

"Potatoes are averaging about 60 bushels to the acre, which makes about 30,000 bushels estimate for this town. Approximately one-third of this amount will grade U. S. No. 1. Bliss Triumph is the only successful variety. Some Cobblers were planted, but very poor stands resulted. The early estimate was 110 to 125 cars for this town, but this will be cut to about 75 cars. However, about half of this amount will be shipped by express in small lots. One man here the week before last shipped 4 cars by express. Up to the last of this week, potato prices have been fine. The first straight car shipped in bushel cucumber crates sold for \$3.35 f.o.b. This was a straight car of No. 1's. Since then the quotations have been \$3.00 for No. 1's; \$2.00 for No. 2's and \$1.00 for No. 3's. This Friday the market broke, and \$2.50 and \$1.50 were the prevailing prices. Potatoes are being shipped exclusively in bushel cucumber crates. Stock going East is loaded 420 to the car, while stock going West is loaded 400 to the car. As very few of these potatoes were shipped East; the average load will be around 400 crates.

"Vegetables usually are loaded 420 to the car. Citrus is loaded from 300 to 410 to the car. The average for the season will fall a little below 360 in this section.

"Cabbage is grown mostly about 12 miles up the river. Wakefield is planted entirely. Much of this stock is used locally. Few cars were shipped from this town. Watermelons are not grown here except for local consumption. Last year one man shipped a few, but this season he has refrained from planting.

"From two-thirds to three-fourths of the citrus crop has moved out of Lee County. I expect that the early estimate for this section will be excessive by about 50,000 to 75,000 boxes. This will be due to drops and culls. This house estimated last fall to have 275,000 boxes, but now only 250,000 are expected, with about 80,000 yet to move.

"A few cars of celery of very poor quality were shipped out of Fort Denoud, a town about 35 miles from Fort Myers. This man brought samples to me and wanted inspection on four cars, but I had to decline on account of lack of time. The samples were pithy and tops yellowed badly." F. G. ROBB.

OFFICE NOTES:

F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago inspection staff, has tendered his resignation, effective April 23. Mr. Baehler was appointed to the Government service in December, 1917, and has been continuously connected with the Chicago office. At various times he substituted for Inspectors in other cities, and during the past season was Supervising Inspector in charge of the work at shipping points in Illinois and Wisconsin. In all of his assignments Mr. Baehler has rendered excellent service, and his withdrawal from this work is regretted. It is understood that Mr. Baehler succeeds to the position with the Stewart Fruit Company, Chicago, recently vacated by B. E. Yaden, who was transferred to New York City.

Mr. Samson went to Los Angeles the early part of this week, but he has since returned to Sacramento, where he is in conference with State authorities regarding standardization work and related problems. H. W. Peterson, Inspector in Charge of the work at El Centro, also has been at Sacramento recently, conferring on matters relating to this service.

Leaving Washington yesterday morning, C. W. Hauck is on a short trip to Trenton and other points in New Jersey. At Trenton, he met D. S. Dilts, of the State Bureau of Markets, and the two traveled together, visiting canners and growers who will use this season the Federal grades for cannery tomatoes. These tentative grades have been officially adopted by the State of New Jersey.

The tentative grades for watermelons have been adopted temporarily as the official standard in South Carolina. The State Division of Markets has mimeographed and distributed copies of these grade requirements among growers and other interested persons in South Carolina.

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor at Chicago, was out of the office part of last week and the early part of this week on account of illness.

Arrangements have been made to put a Supervising Inspector in East Tennessee and one in West Tennessee during the strawberry season, beginning about May 1. It is planned to send James A. Marks from Avoca, N. Y., to East Tennessee, and to close the Fort Worth inspection office and let M. C. Gregory go from there to the western part of Tennessee.

As announced on another page of this D. L., the Houston office will be closed for the summer, and H. T. Longino will go to Laredo, Texas, where he will supervise the inspection of onions. He plans to meet C. D. Shirley at Laredo on April 14, where they will complete arrangements for this work. Mr. Shirley will then go to Asherton, to supervise onion inspections in that district.

A recent wire from A. E. Prugh, at Laredo, advises that the onion crop is late but the quality very good. There will be practically no shipments before April 15, and only a light movement until the 21st.

Word was received at the last minute that the lettuce market reports at El Centro, Calif., would be discontinued this Friday, April 11.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

On the list of field stations of the Market News Service, it will be observed that the closing date for the Grand Rapids office has been postponed until May 10. The opening of a new field station at Mobile, Ala., is announced in this issue; Joseph D. Evers will be in charge. It may be observed that the closing date for Orlando and opening date for Mobile overlap slightly. In case Mr. Evers has to leave before citrus fruit reports are discontinued in Florida, Robert Bier and the Orlando clerk will conduct that service until its close.

W. H. Steinbauer has been on leave for a few days and did not report for duty in the Boston office of the Inspection Service until Wednesday.

F. Earl Parsons, of the State office at Richmond, Va., who visited Washington last week, conferred particularly about the prospective shipping-point inspection of potatoes on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Admer D. Miller, of the Fruit Auction Company, New York, visited former associates in the Washington office last week.

Mrs. Ethel M. Mitchell, who has been in charge of the work on the weekly summary of carlot shipments, is now on leave and will start a three-months' furlough without pay, beginning April 18.

Miss Blanch Ridgeway, also of Mr. Patton's section, is at present on leave. She was called to her home at Farmersburg, Ind., on account of the critical illness of her mother, and we have learned with regret of the mother's death just before Miss Ridgeway arrived home.

Paul M. Niebell, who has been a clerk-typist in the Domestic Wool Section and more recently in Mrs. Mills' office, has secured a transfer to the accounting section of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Mrs. Gladys Gridlin will take up Mr. Niebell's work in the Wool Section.

B. E. Shaffer, who has been Supervising Inspector at Clearwater, Fla., has now moved to Arcadia, where he is in charge of the inspection of potatoes, citrus fruits, and (later) cucumbers, beans, tomatoes, etc. His new address is Morgan Apartments, Arcadia, Fla.

L. C. Archer, whose address was Grand Junction, Colo., and Neal D. Sanborn, formerly at Monte Vista, are now located in the Denver office of the Inspection Service, Room 329 State Capitol Bldg. Mr. Archer recently collected rejection data in the Greeley district and other parts of Colorado.

After closing the Idaho Falls field station next Tuesday, George E. Prince will start for Los Angeles. En route, he will visit other offices of the F. & V. Division. Los Angeles will be Mr. Prince's headquarters until he proceeds to Brawley, where he will assist C. E. Schultz in issuing market reports on cantaloupes.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 16.

April 18, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. ONION SITUATION IN NORTH TEXAS.

Very rarely do we have information about onions in north Texas. W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, submitted the following report on April 1. Collin County, of which he writes, lies just north of the county in which Dallas is located:

"Based on conditions of April 1st, information supplied by members of trade who are posted on the onion situation in Collin County, Texas, also by the McKinney, Texas, Chamber of Commerce which distributes a large portion of the onion seed in that county, indicates that the acreage is about 12½% greater than last year and is placed at 4500. With a continuance of the favorable growing season, the crop will begin to move about July 1st.

"It is too early to estimate the production per acre this year, but last year it averaged about 50 bushels, which was about 20% below normal, due to hot and dry weather. In some places high winds and freezing temperatures during March damaged the young plants possibly 25%, although by April 1st the stand was considered satisfactory.

"In this section, onions are planted in February and March in 3-foot rows, cotton being planted later between rows. This year the varieties planted are estimated 70% Prizetaker, 20% Globe, 5% Crystal Wax, 5% Denia. Of the 1923 crop 160 cars were shipped, and it is expected that 250 cars will be shipped in 1924. The principal shipping points are Melissa, Princeton, Farmersville, and McKinney. A large portion of the onions grown in this section is trucked to Fort Worth and Dallas, and to other near-by towns and cities."

2a. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE SHIPMENTS BREAK ALL RECORDS.

With his final lettuce report on April 11, C.E. Schultz issued an excellent summary of the Imperial Valley season to that date. Not only was the market strong at that time, but total shipments had exceeded all previous records. Imperial Valley is the largest individual lettuce section in the entire United States, and to April 12 the carlot shipments totaled 9,279. Since last Saturday, average daily output has been around 15 or 20 cars, so that the final total for this season may exceed 9,400 cars. Shipments by stations for the last five seasons are given in the following table:

<u>Station.</u>	<u>To April 30th</u>				<u>To Apr. 11th</u>
	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24
	cars	cars	cars	cars	cars
Brawley.....	1238	1463	1834	2565	2994
El Centro.....	243	542	1006	2110	2985
Calexico	425	336	562	818	1308
Heber.....	658	559	794	1064	1084
Imperial.....	94	103	290	584	420
4 others.....	233	393	305	547	472
TOTAL.....	2891	3396	4791	7688	9263

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. UNLOADS IN ALTOONA, PA.

W. C. Lynn, of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, has issued in hectographed form a very neat four-page leaflet on the unloads of fruit and vegetables at Altoona, Pa., during 1923. About 2,000 carloads of 28 products were received last year, compared with 1,836 cars in 1922 and 1,391 cars in 1921. The present population of Altoona is estimated around 65,000. Below is a summary of the unloads by months for 1923, with totals also for 1922 and 1921:

Product.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	1923	1922	1921
Apples.....	13	18	23	9	9		5	12	4	11	11	11	126	84	89
Bananas.....	5	7	8	14	16	21	15	18	9	10	8	7	138	147	128
Cabbage.....	9	7	5	7	11	15	5	2		9	11	5	86	101	49
Cantaloupes...						27	42	38	16	7			130	128	109
Celery.....	14	8	11	9				6	7	14	15	15	99	63	55
Cranberries...											3	1	4	5	5
Cucumbers.....					4	6	8	1					19	22	15
Grapefruit....	8	6	10	6	5	3			1	6	4	2	51	33	25
Grapes.....								8	23	65	31	9	141	92	70
Lemons.....	1		1		1	8	4	3		1	1		20	16	19
Lettuce.....	2	3	8	5							6	7	31	3	1
Mixed Produce.	14	14	34	26	38	25	39	20	9	17	15	23	274	242	195
Onions.....	4	3	5		4	3	1	3	8	12	5	1	49	35	33
Oranges.....	13	21	24	18	26	19	11	13	4	12	12	22	195	91	125
Peaches.....						3	17	18	19	7			64	96	55
Pears.....							3	11	6	6	1		27	29	16
Peppers.....								1	6	3			10	9	5
Pineapples....					11	11	2						24	16	15
Plums.....						1	1	1					3	5	2
Potatoes.....	27	13	16	22	22	36	57	43	7	26	19	7	295	379	270
Quinces.....										2			2	2	2
Satsumas.....											1	2	3	0	0
Strawberries..					26	19							45	31	3
Sweet Potatoes	13	8	8	4	2	1	1	6	16	7	10	15	91	46	51
Tangerines....	3												3	7	2
Tomatoes.....			3	7	9	14	12	5					50	54	43
Turnips.....	1	1	1							1	1		5	1	1
Watermelons...						8	38	25	3				74	99	8
	127	109	157	127	184	220	261	234	143	216	154	127	2059	1836	1391

Mr. Lynn's letter of transmittal also says in part:

"The few facts below may be of interest to you: Harrisburg is larger than Altoona (by about 15,000) and the total unloads were 2,291 and 2,059 cars respectively. However, Harrisburg's proportion of mixed cars (from Baltimore and Philadelphia) was 46%, while Altoona's (principally from Pittsburgh) was only 13%. That means that the solid carloads of fruits and vegetables in Harrisburg amounted to 1,226, while those in Altoona were 1,785 cars. This, I think, makes an interesting study.

Incidentally, Altoona gets not only more solid cars than Harrisburg, but also commodities that Harrisburg never sees in carload lots.

"Another important point is the 84-car decrease in potato unloads. Figures show an increase of (roughly) 50,000 bushels of potatoes in Blair County over the 1922 crop, and, on a basis of 600 bushels per car, this amounts to over 80 cars. Although this is a comparison between crop-year production and calendar-year unloads, a close relationship is shown."

2b. RETURNING CONTAINERS TO NEW JERSEY GROWERS.

Many of the Market News men have received inquiries from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture relative to practices in their markets as to the return of containers used in the handling of local or homegrown fruits and vegetables. An explanation of the reasons for this investigation may be of interest:

Practically all the produce brought into Philadelphia from southern New Jersey is hauled by truck or wagon in open 5/8 bushel hampers, this container being used for all commodities. Upon delivery of the produce to the receiver, the farmer gets an equal number of baskets in return or a cash allowance for his baskets. During the past winter a movement was started among the commission men to do away with this practice, and an agreement was finally made that it should be discontinued on April 1. This has met with considerable opposition on the part of New Jersey growers, and efforts have been made to bring about conferences with the receivers with a view to obtaining abrogation or modification of the agreement. It is to bring out the facts regarding this matter that the New Jersey Department of Agriculture is seeking information as to practices in other sections of the country. It is understood that some of the Philadelphia receivers have not lived up to the agreement and have returned to the practice which has existed for so many years.

3b. SHARP ADVANCE FOR IDAHO POTATOES.

Before closing the Idaho Falls field station, George E. Prince sent the following information under date of April 8:

"The potato market has been rather excited the past two days, the price of Russets advancing from \$1.90 on April 3 to \$2.30-2.35 yesterday. Rurals advanced only 10¢ on eastern shipments but 20¢ on California pack during the same period. Am inclined to believe that they boosted the local market entirely too fast, but perhaps they can hold it. Growers are holding firmly for higher prices and very few potatoes are being hauled at \$2.00. Shipments are considerably lighter than a week ago, and shippers feel that the potatoes will be cleaned up by May 1. According to April estimates by local factors, there are around 1,000 cars remaining in the entire State, with a possibility of 1,200 if market conditions continue good. This estimate includes No. 2's and culls, a large percentage of the present shipments being of this class."

IT IS A MARK OF EFFICIENCY TO KEEP INFORMED ABOUT ALL THE WORK in your Division. Your interests should be larger than your own office.

Moral: Read all of the Division Letter regularly.

4b. CROP CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

The following interesting letter of April 9 was received from H. A. Harris, in charge of the Los Angeles office of the Market News Service:-

"Recent rains have brought the precipitation for southern California to about last season's figures. Latest reports from the mountains indicate that the snowfall is from one-third to one-half of last year's. This means that there is plenty of moisture for the immediate requirements of crops and that any shortage in irrigation water will develop late in the season, if at all. Since my last letter the rains have increased the sizes of the Valencia orange crop, but present indications are that a heavy percentage, probably one-half, will run small. Rains came too late, of course, for any substantial increase in the potato acreage, so that it seems probable that a much higher percentage of the local crop and of the crop from the Shafter district will be consumed locally than ever before.

"The spring lettuce crop is coming along nicely and shipments are just beginning to become of importance. Certain sections of Los Angeles County, particularly in the district around Sawtelle, will show an increased acreage over last year, but the county as a whole has less lettuce than for several years. Plantings in Orange County are very light, but Ventura, Santa Barbara, and the other coast counties north to Santa Cruz all have increased acreages.

"It is too early yet to tell much about the tomato crop, but the general feeling is that plantings will be lighter than last year, partly on account of the poor demand and prices prevailing throughout last fall and partly because many of the Orange County growers have planted sugar beets. The late spring cauliflower crop is ^{very} short, only one or two cars a day moving out. The quality of these late shipments is generally good, but sizes are running small. Last year the spring crop was curtailed by warm weather and this year by drought.

"One difficulty in securing crop information in this section, as you know, is the large percentage of Japanese growers. It is very hard to obtain information from either the growers or their associations, for, while they do not refuse, yet they are able to find plenty of excuses and evasions to keep from putting out any data.

"I have not been in the country for several weeks, as I have been busy in the office, and besides the foot-and-mouth disease quarantine regulations make travel inconvenient and unpleasant. I do not know what crop will be planted on the land that ordinarily would have grown potatoes, but presume that, in the San Fernando valley at least, it will be beans. The foot-and-mouth disease is injuring fruit and vegetable trading both in the local market and as to carlot shipments. Arizona, New Mexico, and Nevada have had an absolute quarantine against any products of the soil, as well as animals and animal products, for two weeks. I would estimate that this market has been shipping at least two cars a day of fruit and vegetables into this territory, either in mixed cars or l.c.l. shipments. This has meant an accumulation of supplies on the local market and has weakened the tone on all fruits and vegetables. The restrictions on carlot shipments are not extensive as yet, since most of the States that have quarantined against us are western States and the bulk of the straight carlot movement goes to the eastern markets. I have found it very difficult to keep posted from day to day on the extent and number of quarantines issued against the shipments of California fruit and vegetables by other States, since there does not

seem to be any official notification on the part of the State making the embargo. I have tried to collect as much of this information as possible for the benefit of shippers and have also offered to the State and Federal officials in charge of the control work in southern California the aid and use of such of our facilities as could be used by them in their fight against this disease."

5b. RADIO AND MAIL REPORTS IN WISCONSIN.

At the time the last bulletins were issued from Waupaca, a special notice or questionnaire was sent to Mr. Mosier's entire mailing list of about 1,000 names. A plea was made in this circular for everyone to reply, in order that we might have accurate information as to the value of radio compared with the daily bulletins issued on potatoes. Reports on other crops were not considered. Unfortunately, only 122 replies have been received, indicating either lack of interest in the subject or ordinary laziness. The questions asked and the answers given are tabulated below:

<u>Questions.</u>	<u>Answers.</u>		
	<u>Yes.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
1. Do you receive the current potato market information by radio?.....	5	101	Part of time, 4
2. Is the reception of this information by radio as satisfactory for your needs as through the mail?	7	90	Miscellaneous, 6
3. Do you need mimeographed mail reports of the potato market for reference or for statistical purposes?	75	17	(Reference, 10 (Statistical, 3
4. Would not a report from Washington be as satisfactory for this purpose as one issued locally?	28	66	Miscellaneous 15

The results of this inquiry, which are unfavorable to the utilization of radio, must be considered in light of information contained in a recent letter from B. B. Jones, in charge of the Market News work for Wisconsin. He advises that the broadcasting of market reports has been seriously interrupted since the removal of the State office from Waupaca to Stevens Point on account of difficulties encountered in setting up and getting into working order the broadcasting apparatus. Mr. Jones advises that a very large number of inquiries have been received from farmers and dealers as to why they are not getting the radio reports as usual, and he feels that these inquiries are an indication of the popularity and value of the radio broadcasting work.

The broadcasting schedule probably has been resumed by this time. During the period the station was not in operating order after our potato bulletins were discontinued, the State issued a mimeographed report on potatoes and furnished the reports to the United Press and the Associated Press, securing wide distribution over Wisconsin through these organizations.

Last week's Division Letter was unusually large.

The D.L. and enclosures made 10 sheets of paper in each envelope, and when folded this was equal to the thickness of 30 sheets. Envelopes so over-filled sometimes tear open when going through the cancelling machine in post office. If YOU did not receive your copy of the D.L., please advise the Washington office.

6b. TENTATIVE ASPARAGUS CODE PAGE BEING MAILED.

(Effective Apr. 24)

A tentative code page for asparagus is enclosed with this Division Letter, based largely on letters recently received from the market stations. Your criticism of the page is invited.

So much confusion exists between the grade terms used for California asparagus by different shippers that it seems best to follow O. D. Miller's plan of describing asparagus by size terms. More uniformity seems to exist in grades of asparagus coming from South Carolina than from any other State, but even there all shippers do not use the same terms with identical meanings. For the present, therefore, describe all asparagus by size terms. "U. S. No. 1" and "U. S. No. 2" should also be used, if stock is sold by U. S. grades. The table of size equivalents for California grade terms or brands, shown on the code page, is taken from a letter from Mr. Miller. Use your judgment in deciding what ^{size} terms to use on other grades or brands.

7b. ADDITIONS TO "GOD-GOS" (MISCELLANEOUS MARKET PHRASES) PAGE OF CODE:

(Effective Apr. 24)

On "GOD-GOS" (Miscellaneous Market Phrases) page of code, add

GODOT - Brokers' carlot sales, Fort Worth basis

GODOV - Brokers' carlot sales, Dallas basis.

The addition of these two phrases will permit a more accurate description of the Fort Worth and Dallas brokers' sales, which we have been quoting, than has been possible with existing code terms, besides lessening the number of code phrases needed in the Fort Worth and Dallas reports.

8b. ASPARAGUS MARKET REPORTS IN THE SOUTH.

T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, is sending a daily wire (collect) to "The State," a newspaper published at Columbia, S.C., in which he gives a brief report of the shipments and supplies of asparagus and condition of a few city markets, with jobbing prices, etc. The "Atlanta Journal" broadcasts this report daily at 2:30 P.M., and Mr. Curry expects to have a similar report broadcast from the radio station at Clemson College, S.C. Efforts are being made to ascertain how many producers in South Carolina are now receiving the data broadcast by the "Atlanta Journal," station WSB.

9b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 12:

Page 229- Special paragraph on Strawberries in weekly review.

231- Imperial Valley Lettuce Shipments, - by C. E. Schultz.

- Philadelphia Handles Much Produce (article based on unloads summary by E. R. Biddle).

232- Sanford Celery Deal Successful, - by F. H. Scruggs.

240- Market for American Raisins in China.

- England Re-exports Fruit to Germany.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	May 10 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	May 1
HAMMOND, LA. P.C.Bldg.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Apr. 1	May 3(?)
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 14	May 20
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 18	May 20

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

MEGETT, S. C.**	853	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 25 May 10	May 15 June 10
MOBILE, ALA. **	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 28 May 15 May 15	May 31 June 25 June 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.**	805	V. D. Callanan	Berries	May 1	May 20
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	Unassigned	Berries	May 5	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 5	May 31
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	Unassigned	Berries	May 12	May 31
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	Unassigned	Cabbage Tomatoes	May 15 June 1	June 10 June 30
MCNETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 19	June 14
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 26	July 12

The following station closed on date indicated:

EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 8	<u>Closed</u> Apr. 11.
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*Reports discontinued.

** State Dept. cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson)
G. A. DeHaven) To Florida for inspection work.
G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office.
C. E. Schultz, c/o Los Angeles office.

E. S. Stiles, in Charge, Boston.
C. L. Brown in New York City.
W. J. Bertush in New York City.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. SEND COPIES ON POTATO REINSPECTIONS TO MR. MERCKER.

Copies of all certificates issued on reinspections of Florida potatoes should be sent to A. E. Mercker, Hastings, Florida. This will apply to reinspections for condition as well as for grade. Mr. Mercker desires this information so that he can make a study of conditions which result in transit decay.

Watch the daily lists for numbers of cars which have been inspected in Florida and report reinspections to Mr. Mercker, as suggested above.

2c. FEES COLLECTED BY WASHINGTON OFFICE.

The Washington office endeavors to collect all fees from applicants who have failed to respond to the requests of the field offices. The applicant sometimes sends the payment to the branch office which made the inspection, without replying to our letter. We have no means of knowing whether such payments have been made unless the branch office advises immediately upon the receipt of such fees. If we do not receive payment within two weeks of our first letter, a much stronger one is sent. When an applicant, who has already mailed his check to the branch office in response to our first letter, receives a second communication from us, he is inclined to become "peeved" and wonders why he received such a statement after he had forwarded his check.

The only remedy for this situation is for the branch offices to notify us immediately upon receipt of all overdue fees. Including such fees in the weekly letter of transmittal is not sufficient, for these do not go through our office. We must, therefore, have direct notification, so that we will not send out second statements and that we may be in a position to return immediately the pink fee slip for your files,

3c. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FLORIDA PINEAPPLES.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., has written a letter to the Washington office, regarding the proposed shipping-point inspection of pineapples in Florida this season. Parts of his letter are quoted below:

"On April 4, I attended a meeting at West Palm Beach of the directors of the three local associations of the Florida Pineapple Growers' Ass'n. This association, which was formed this year, includes nearly all of the pineapple growers in the Florida East Coast section, and they will ship about 300 cars. The few others will have about 75 cars.

"The organization voted to have its entire tonnage Government-State inspected. Cars will be loaded at three points, Delray, Stuart and Ft. Pierce. At Stuart, the heaviest point, all the fruit will be packed over a grading and sizing machine, the first ever used in Florida.

"They also voted to adopt the tentative U.S. grades, which I have enclosed, and agreed to pack according to them this season. The shipping season will start about May 15 and last until July 15."

4c. APPLES REMAINING IN WENATCHEE SECTION.

Writing from Portland, Oregon, on April 11, F. E. Bailey, tells briefly of conditions in the Wenatchee district of Washington:-

"Departing Spokane last Sunday evening, I spent Monday and Tuesday in the Wenatchee District, where I found that there are about 500 cars of apples remaining, mostly Saps and almost all in cold storage at one of the following points: Wenatchee, Chelan, Cashmere and Peshastin. The fruit impressed me with its excellent condition, compared with that remaining in storage one year ago. I do not recall a lot of Saps which did not deserve a 'few firm,' and one car could justly go 'majority firm'."

"The fruit there is, I consider, in much better maturity status than what I have seen recently in Hood River, Walla Walla Valley and in Spokane cold storage from Yakima."

5c. GRAIN SAMPLERS TO BE USED WITH PEANUTS.

An experiment for the purpose of determining whether the use of a grain sampler, for extracting peanuts for inspection, causes an increased percentage of splits has been conducted by the Chicago office. In one case extraction was made by hand, as heretofore; in the other, with a 9-inch grain trier. The results obtained are as follows:

<u>Car Number,</u>	<u>Sampled by Hand,</u>	<u>Sampled with Trier</u>
NYC 226030	0.63% Splits	0.77% Splits
I&N 97107	0.392% "	0.596% "
NO&SRL 14312	3.00% "	2.30% "
NH 88858	1.013% "	1.186% "
WAB 64404	1.53% "	1.60% "
ACL 46502	0.24% "	1.19% "
ACL 48322	1.53% "	1.76% "
CCFG 51355	0.74% "	1.10% "
I&GN 7017	1.17% "	1.64% "
ABA 29184	1.52% "	1.46% "
Total	12,515	13,402

It was thought that by the "trier" method the kernels might be split more than by hand, but the experiment shows that the difference is not sufficient to be of importance.

The Chicago office has been asked to send to each office, which makes peanut inspections, one of these samplers with directions for use.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection

Be sure to read Paragraph 6c,
on page 182.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF MARCH, 1924.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1923	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	15	49	64	61	5	0	\$ 252	\$15.00	\$ 2
Baltimore	9	26	35	30	0	0	140	-	1
Boston	21	85	106	88	28	2	416	7.50	7
Buffalo	15	30	45	38	17	0	140	42.50	6
Chicago	171	110	281	311	2	8	1008	62.50	29
Cincinnati	17	42	59	68	2	0	200	2.50	1
Cleveland	13	60	73	83	20	0	240	27.50	24
Columbus	4	22	26	22	8	0	104	-	2
Denver	16	7	23	7	0	0	92	-	-
Detroit	16	43	59	75	3	0	200	22.50	2
Erie	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Fort Worth	10	5	15	18	1	0	56	2.50	-
Harrisburg	0	3	3	7	0	0	12	-	-
Houston	7	12	19	44	0	0	64	5.00	-
Indianapolis	7	14	21	31	0	0	84	-	3
Kansas City	106	58	164	72	2	0	630	10.00	3
Los Angeles	0	0	0	10	0	0	-	-	-
Memphis	8	8	16	43	0	0	56	2.50	16
Milwaukee	18	11	29	59	0	0	108	5.00	-
Minneapolis	35	20	55	78	0	0	208	7.50	-
New Haven	13	32	45	-	0	0	172	5.00	7
New Orleans	21	63	84	51	43	1	264	45.00	14
New York	407	404	811	413	155	24	2868	232.50	13
Norfolk	10	18	28	20	0	1	108	2.50	3
Omaha	52	5	57	60	0	0	228	-	7
Philadelphia	20	44	64	229	15	0	228	15.00	9
Pittsburgh	15	95	110	145	21	0	460	2.50	38
Portland	4	60	64	-	2	0	236	10.00	1
San Antonio	0	2	2	-	0	0	8	-	-
St. Louis	40	224	264	225	153	0	800	130.00	35
Washington	12	41	53	37	8	0	200	7.50	7
Wichita	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-
Wilkes-Barre	8	1	9	15	1	1	36	-	3
TOTAL	1090	1594	2684	2367	386	37	\$ 9648	\$ 662.50	\$ 233

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L. C.L. Fruit Inspections ..	1090	Inspections for Carriers .	386
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections	1594	Declined for lack of time.	37
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.	2684	Total Fees Assessed, \$10,585.50*	

* Total Fees Assessed includes \$42.00 for inspections of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MARCH, 1924.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	50789		6035		55824		31		0	
	9765		0		9765		45		0	
NEW YORK	732471		5539		738010		2792		0	
	198813		1700		200513		18		0	
NORFOLK	1089622		39040		1128662		0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
PHILADELPHIA	181282		3835		185117		1128		0	
	16255		264		16519		78		0	
SAN DIEGO	258705		8169		266874		69		0	
	77167		45		77212		0		0	
SAN FRANCISCO	261800		1960		263760		40		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
SAN PEDRO	39061		35		39096		110		0	
	-		-		-		-		-	
VALLEJO	181305		1652		182957		69		0	
	40383		290		40673		35		0	
TOTALS	2795035		66265		2861300		4239		0	
	342383		2299		344682		176		0	

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	6765	0	6765	0	0
NORFOLK	20750	0	20750	340	0
TOTALS	27515	0	27515	340	0

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected for the U. S. Lines 76,997 lbs. of fruit and 238,352 lbs. of vegetables, of which total 11,280 lbs. were rejected. For the Munson Line 19,137 lbs. of fruit and 74,269 lbs. of vegetables were inspected, of which total 1,264 lbs. were rejected.

The San Pedro office also inspected 3,200 lbs. of bread, 350 lbs. of butter, and 130 lbs. of cheese, making a total of 3,680 lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected and accepted 23,360 lbs. of bread and 276 lbs. of rolls for the Navy.

6c. IMPORTANT MEETINGS IN FLORIDA.

This week's "E. A. B. News" carries the following important statement regarding the Fla. situation:

Adoption of the U. S. grades for citrus fruits, with slight modifications, and endorsement of Government inspection at shipping points were among the resolutions passed at the recent convention of citrus growers and shippers at Orlando, Fla., reports Robert Bier.

According to newspaper clippings, the high spot in the convention was the condemnation by the growers of the f.o.b. auction plan as a method of securing more satisfactory prices for fruit. The convention saw no immediate hope of discontinuing the auction markets, but recommended the gradual withdrawal from auction marketing, using this method only when necessary.

Following an address by A. D. Miller, formerly of our Fruit and Vegetable Division and now General Manager of the New York Fruit Auction Company, considerable criticism was expressed because Florida fruit men are forced to pay a higher commission than California fruit men. A resolution was passed to the effect that a demand should be made of the New York company for a fair price to be established for all kinds of fruit.

In his letter, dated Orlando, April 11, Mr. Bier concludes: "I made a talk to the Fruitmen's Club Tuesday evening upon inspection. This club represents independent shippers, as well as the exchanges. Its function has been largely that of getting together to limit shipments. A committee of five of the leading shippers was appointed as a result of the meeting to take up the question of Government inspection and certification next fall. They desire a certificate that can be attached to each bill of lading, showing the acid test of their fruit. It is their hope that this will help in lessening green-fruit shipments."

OFFICE NOTES:

Hollie E. Rutland, of Florida, has been appointed a Junior Marketing Specialist (F.&V.) and will report for temporary duty in the Washington office of the Market News Service about April 21. Mr. Rutland has had three years' high school work. He attended Bailey Military Institute, Greenwood, S.C., from 1913 to 1916 and Georgia Technical College, Atlanta, part of 1918. He has had considerable experience in packing and shipping watermelons, cantaloupes, etc. During 1919 and 1920, Mr. Rutland was employed as a salesman for Swift and Company at Moultrie, Ga., and later as General Field Inspector for the Southwest Georgia Melon Growers' Association. He also has served as Manager for the Suwanee Truckers' Association, and was associated with the North American Fruit Exchange at Macon, Ga. In the early part of last year he was in charge of a cucumber farm at Williston, Fla., and for a few months was employed by this Bureau as a cooperative shipping-point inspector in Georgia. Mr. Rutland was in the U. S. Naval Reserve from 1918 to 1922.

Mr. Sherman was at Hammond, La., on Thursday; at New Orleans today, and then expects to proceed to Laredo, Texas, where he will confer with representatives of this Division handling inspection and market news work. He advises that the people in Mississippi are lining up for inspection of a large percentage of their shipments of vegetables.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Mr. Samson wired from Portland that he had attended meetings of the Oregon Horticultural Board on Monday and Tuesday; that he would be in Seattle on Wednesday, Yakima on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and then go to Spokane.

Page 14A of last week's "New York Packer" carried a column-and-a-half report on the Cincinnati meeting of the National Basket and Fruit Package Manufacturers' Association. At the session held on Thursday, April 10, both H. A. Spilman, in Charge of the Enforcement of the Standard Container Act, and A. E. Foote, standardization expert in the Dept. of Commerce, delivered addresses regarding their particular lines of work. One of the results of this convention was the appointment of two committees: the first to look into the possible standardization of commercial baskets (such as clothes baskets and hampers, shopping baskets, etc.), and the second committee to devote its attention to crate standardization. Mr. Spilman is an advisory member of the second committee.

Note the following changes on the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service: V.D. Callanan will operate the Chadbourn office, and W. J. Bertush, who was to have gone to Chadbourn, will issue market reports at Meggett, S.C. The opening dates for both Meggett and Mobile have been postponed a few days. Four additional stations are listed in this D.L. It is not certain, as yet, that cabbage reports will be issued at Crystal Springs.

V.D. Callanan, who has been in charge of the Boston office of the News Service, expects to leave for Washington by Monday. He will spend a few days in the local office, and then proceed to North Carolina and later Georgia, where he will handle market reports on strawberries and peaches respectively.

H.S. Stiles, who has been assisting in Boston since the close of the Presque Isle field station, will remain temporarily in charge of the market reporting work in that city.

Preparatory to the departure of O.D. Miller from New York City, C.L. Brown, of the Rochester office, will go to New York and take over the news work for the next ^{few} months or until a permanent successor is chosen for Mr. Miller's place. Mr. Brown is expected to reach Washington this Saturday from Rochester. He will remain here several days before proceeding to New York City.

After assisting in the Atlanta office for some time, S.W. Russell was transferred to New York last week, where he will take up the duties previously handled by S. D. Main, resigned. Mr. Russell stopped at the Washington office last Friday. It will be remembered that he formerly assisted in New York and, therefore, is acquainted with the work in that market.

Word has just been received that J.R. Duncan, of the Salt Lake City office, has returned to duty after an absence on account of sickness the latter part of March and the first half of April.

CORRECTION: In Par. 5b, page 175 of this D.L., the word "current" in first question should be "current."

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

W. H. Mosier, who was on leave at Columbus, stopped at the Austin office of the Texas Radio Market News Service on Wednesday and at our Laredo office on Thursday en route to his new assignment at Asherton, where he will issue market reports on onions.

Chas. W. Hauck returned to Washington Monday morning, after spending April 10, 11 and 12 visiting New Jersey tomato canners in company with D. S. Dilts, Grades and Standards Specialist for N. J. Tentative arrangements have been made with four large canners of tomatoes and tomato products in South Jersey, whereby the State Bureau of Markets, in cooperation with this Bureau, will conduct further investigations of the tentative U. S. Grades for cannery tomatoes during the coming season. It is planned to make some extensive tests of the grades under actual commercial conditions in an effort to determine their practicability and to learn what revisions, if any, are needed to make them harmonize with good commercial practice.

A special telegraphic service is being rendered the Hastings, Fla., field station by our New York office. Every morning at 8 o'clock, Mr. Miller dispatches a wire to Mr. Scruggs, giving the arrivals of Florida potatoes and the opening prices that day. This is followed later by the usual complete report of the markets through the Washington office.

James A. Marks has gone from Avoca, N. Y., to the Pittsburgh office, which is his permanent headquarters. He will remain in Pittsburgh until about April 25, when he starts for eastern Tennessee, to supervise shipping-point inspection of strawberries.

Mrs. Ethel Mills, of the Washington office, has been out for the last 10 days on account of illness. In her absence, Miss Collier is handling the fiscal and personnel matters of the Division, assisted by Mrs. Cridlin.

Mrs. F. M. Jenkins, who formerly worked for Mr. Robb in Room 528, is now on Mr. Patton's staff and is located in Room 524, succeeding Miss Watkins, who was transferred to Room 527. Miss Cecelia Bauman, until recently a member of Mr. Fiske's force, is now located in the Bureau stenographic pool.

Since closing the El Centro field station, C. E. Schultz has gone on two weeks' leave at his home in Lindsay, Calif. He can be reached, however, through out Los Angeles office. Beginning the latter part of May, Mr. Schultz, assisted by G. E. Prince, will operate the Brawley field station on cantaloupes.

No Weekly News Letter of the Florida Inspection Service was issued this week. The final big issue will come out next Monday. Joseph D. Evers, who has been the editor of this sheet, will move about that time to Mobile, Ala., where he will operate a field station of the Market News Service. The Florida News Letter has served a very useful purpose in keeping the various Supervisors and local inspectors informed of the work in general and in circulating necessary instructions regarding the Inspection Service. Its most interesting items have been quoted regularly in our Division Letter.

R. M. Peterson advises that all his mail should be sent to P.O. Box 244, Leesburg, Fla., rather than to the First National Bank Bldg., Leesburg.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 17

April 25, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. PROPOSAL TO "RAILROADIZE" THE RIVERS.

One or two letters have been received from the Standard Unit Navigation Company, St. Louis - whose trade word is the "SUNCO" System - telling of their proposal to inaugurate a system of standardized towboats and barges, to be operated under one general management on practically all of the inland waterways. The towboats, which it is proposed to construct, will draw as little as 22 inches of water. The barges will be only 16 feet wide and 50 feet long; when empty, these will draw only 12 inches of water, and one more inch for each additional two tons of cargo.

The letter continues: "The construction and method of propelling our towboat makes it possible to operate in water not much deeper than its draft. Our plan is to put a system on the rivers that will, in its operation, resemble in practically every respect the operations of railroads. In other words, we are going to 'railroadize' the rivers. The utilization of the towboats and barges of light draft and short length makes it possible to navigate the very shallow and crooked rivers, which today are considered impossible of navigation. *** Our engineers have found it very practicable for us to operate on the Missouri River as far west as Fort Benton, Montana. We can penetrate a great many of the rivers of Texas very far into the State, and we can utilize many of the rivers in the corn and wheat districts and fruit areas that are now not considered navigable."

A more recent letter, dated April 16, says in part: "You can appreciate that, in inaugurating a system of the magnitude of this, it is very necessary for us to study conditions from every angle. We must also endeavor to serve every community in a much better way than any other transportation system. We have laid out a refrigerating system which we believe is superior to anything now in operation on the railroad.

"Of course, one of our principal tonnages will be grain. Mr. Montgomery, of the Department of Commerce, made a statement in his address here last Friday before the Mississippi Valley Foreign Trade Association that, if any means could be devised that would save the American miller from 12¢ to 15¢ a barrel on flour, it would not only be a great advantage to them, but would be the salvation of the American farmer. After his address, the writer called this fact to his attention: That we could operate from Fort Benton, Montana, on the Missouri River to the Gulf, and from St. Paul and Chicago, and quoted him rates from intermediate points such as Davenport, Iowa, and Kansas City. We showed him that, by a through water rate from these points, it would save the American farmer from 6¢ to 8¢ a bushel on wheat and the miller from 12¢ to 15¢ a barrel on flour.

"We expect to have a meeting here on April 24, consisting of citizens from St. Paul, Minneapolis, and other northern Mississippi River towns, to establish the first line between here (St. Louis) and St. Paul. Our plan is eventually to operate on approximately 16,000 miles of rivers in the Mississippi Valley."

2a. THE "PAPAYA" - BY ONE WHO KNOWS.

It is notable that the article on the front page of the D.L. for April 11 has aroused considerable interest among our readers. W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, has generously contributed the following defense of "the fair papaw." It is well worth reading; outside quotation marks are omitted, because of the numerous inner quotations:

In the Division Letter of April 11, 1924, under the title "An Aid to Digestion", appears an interesting description of "the fair papaw," or what is more properly and more commonly known in the West Indies and the East Indies as the papaya. Here we have a rather singular case of a scientific name of a plant which is more current among those familiar with the plant than is the supposedly popular name. I make this assertion after three years of experience in the Philippines and one year in the West Indies, where the plant and its fruit are almost universally known among the natives, as well as the Americans, Britishers and other foreigners, by its scientific name, the papaya.

It has been unfortunate for the peace of the world and especially for convenience in conversation while traveling abroad that the different nations have insisted upon translating proper names and native terms in such a manner as to make them unrecognizable by those who are supposed to know and use these names in their ever-day life. To me it seems a shame that our school children are taught that Naples is a leading seaport of Italy, that Vienna is the capital of Austria, that Lisbon is in Portugal, etc., because later in life, if they should travel in these countries, they might be surprised to learn that those who live there had never heard of such places. Among the Portuguese it is Lisboa (not Lisbon); among the Austrians it is Wien (not Vienna), and among the Italians Napoli (not Naples) is a leading port of Italia (not Italy). My experience convinces me that practically no one in the East or West Indies ever calls a "papaya" a "papaw," and any one doing so would be immediately spotted as a tourist or a new arrival from England.

The description of the papaya given in the article is a good one. The fruit resembles our muskmelon very much in appearance, but its taste is decidedly different. It should not be a pity to add the statement that it is "more wholesome than palatable," for such a statement need not be construed to depreciate its palatable qualities but rather to accentuate its wholesomeness. I think I voice the sentiment of thousands of Americans who have lived in those countries, when I say that there is nothing more toothsome for a tropical breakfast than half a ripe, juicy papaya, pre-cooled overnight in an icebox. To get the most enjoyment out of eating this fruit for breakfast, it is customary to sprinkle on it a few drops of lemon juice and some sugar, while many prefer it with salt and pepper just as cantaloupes are generally eaten. Concerning its wholesome qualities there is no question. The Bureau of Chemistry of the Philippines has made many successful experiments in extracting pepsin from the fruit, while some of our leading drug manufacturers (Parke-Davis Co.) have found

it a commercially profitable process.

Even though it might be possible to import it into the United States, it would certainly have to be "pushed" to become popular, just as any other strange commodity has to be introduced. My recollection is that it is exceedingly delicate and will not stand much handling after it begins to ripen. But, if brought into this country on a commercial scale, I believe the Department of Agriculture would do no more than justice to the fruit, as well as to the public, by calling it the "papaya," not the "papaw" or "pawpaw" which is altogether another fruit known in many sections of the United States.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 19:

Page 245 - Special paragraph on Potatoes in weekly review.

247 - Onions in North Texas, - by W. D. Googe.

- Additional Field Stations to be Opened.

- Heavy Potato Shipments from Michigan, - by R. E. Shoemaker.

- Texas Onions Moving, - by A. E. Prugh.

251 - Shipping-Point Inspections in the West.

4a. APPLES TRANSPORTED BY AERIAL CABLE.

The front-page article in the D.L. for April 4 mentioned an American orchard on a mountain-top, from which the apples are shipped by an aerial cable to the railway station below. Dr. H. P. Gould, of B.P.I., sent a letter of inquiry to the Idaho Bureau of Plant Industry, and obtained this additional information from the Director of that Bureau:

"It is a fact that the Mesa Orchard Company near Council, Idaho, which is about 30 miles north of Weiser, is an orchard of considerable proportion; in fact, it is the largest orchard which we have in the State and one of the largest in the Northwest. They convey their fruit and all supplies from packing house to the shipping point, which is about three and a-half miles, by an aerial cable. Attached to this cable are iron baskets, which carry eight boxes of apples each, and there are 30 of these baskets over the entire system. This makes it possible for them to load a car of apples in about two hours' time. It is very unique in its construction and seems to be efficient in its operation, although I have questioned many times the economy of the proposition when the up-to-date motor trucks are considered. This, of course, was installed and put in operation before we had the auto trucks of the present time.

"They convey coal, box shooks, nails, paper, and all such supplies with this system. It is operated by electricity. There are many places in the Northwest where wheat is transferred by the aerial tramways, but this is the only one I know of being used for the handling of fruit. I have seen in various places the same system used for handling ore at the mines."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. USE OF LOCAL ADDRESSES ON BULLETIN ENVELOPES.

In order to avoid the delay occasioned by having improperly addressed envelopes returned to this office and, through this office, to the branch offices, it is requested that hereafter each branch office stamp its local address on envelopes used in the circularization of mailing lists, and also on envelopes containing the first two or three reports sent to a new name on the list. This is in accordance with instructions issued to all Divisions by C. W. Kitchen, Business Manager of the Bureau.

2b. BROADCASTING THE WEEKLY REVIEW.

Quite a number of the market stations receiving the weekly market review from Washington are now marking the important parts of the review and furnishing these marked copies to certain broadcasting stations in their respective territories.

We are not quite sure that the following letter, recently received by Mr. Hall, of the Chicago office, refers to the weekly review, but it sounds as if it relates to that material. The letter is from E. S. Keene, Dean of Mechanic Arts, North Dakota Agricultural College:-

"I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your recent bulletin on the review of the fruit and vegetable market. A considerable part of the information was used in our weekly broadcast having to do with market conditions. The potato market in this region is a subject of considerable interest, and anything that has to do with this commodity is listened to with great attention. The other items marked, as apples, onions, etc., are of course of minor interest, but I am glad to use them. I wish to thank you for these bulletins, and assure you of our appreciation."

3b. FEATURES OF REPORTS AT LAREDO, TEXAS.

The first few onion reports received from the Laredo field station carry some unique features. At the top of the front-page stencil, Mr. Prugh has traced a large circle, inside of which is an outline map of Texas. Words and arrows indicate on this map the exact location of the three sections, - Upper Counties, Laredo, and the Gulf Coast. The cooperating factors also are named at the head of all reports, as follows: Texas Markets and Warehouse Department; University of Texas Radio Division; Signal Corps, U. S. Army; Laredo Chamber of Commerce, and the Webb County Onion Growers.

In addition to the usual market information, the first bulletin contained the latest crop estimates for Bermuda and Creole onions in California, Louisiana and Texas; the second report carried a statement about Federal-State inspection at shipping points and printed the revised U. S. grades for Bermuda onions. On the third report appeared a complete tabulation of last year's onion shipments by counties and stations in Texas, showing the monthly movement. The fourth bulletin published a copy of a complete certificate of inspection on a car of Texas Bermudas, the shipper's name alone being omitted.

4b. OLD POTATOES SOLD AS NEW STOCK.

In line with G. C. Bayley's article in Par. 1b of the D. L. for March 28, the following letter was received from W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, regarding the custom of dealers passing old potatoes for new:

"Perhaps you are aware that, in Chicago and some of the other large cities, certain dealers make a practice of selling old Bliss Triumph potatoes for new stock. For the past two or three years they have been getting away with this very nicely, and the practice is growing by leaps and bounds here in Chicago. It is safe to say that fully one-half of the grocery stores in Chicago are advertising old Bliss Triumphs as new potatoes, charging anywhere from five to ten cents per pound for this stock.

"The wholesale operators are receiving at the present time \$3.00 to \$3.25 per cwt. for medium to small-size Triumphs from Nebraska. The reason for these unusually high prices is quite obvious. I believe most of the retail grocers are not aware that they are selling old potatoes for new, but the dealers most certainly know this and are quite frank in their conversation regarding these transactions, often joking among themselves about the prices they are able to get for stock which a few years ago went begging, as compared with good white stock. They argue that, if the public is so gullible and easily hoodwinked, it does not matter, inasmuch as the potatoes are perfectly good and no physical harm is done.

"Last year the Bureau of Chemistry started an investigation of what they termed misbranding or selling of goods under false pretense, but it appears that nothing definite came of this investigation, as the practice is growing. I am rather surprised that the southern growers of new potatoes have not taken up this matter, for the practice is undoubtedly proving injurious to the new potato deal, and just as long as it is allowed to run uninterrupted it will become an increasing menace to the growers and dealers of new potatoes."

5b. MARKET NEWS AND CROP NOTES.

J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, has been assisting Mr. Biddle in a publicity program for market news in the Philadelphia district. The following letter of April 17 from Mr. Scott tells first of this campaign, and then of crop conditions on the Eastern Shore of Maryland:

"During the past week or so we have put on a campaign, so to speak, in an effort to line up the county newspapers in this section and get them to carry our reports, preferably a weekly review of some form. Mr. Sherburne, of the New Jersey Bureau of Markets, is helping us on the New Jersey papers, while in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania we have asked the various County Agents to put the matter up to their papers.

"It is our aim to get at least one reliable newspaper in each county to carry a weekly write-up on the Philadelphia market. We have decided to give this service regardless of when the paper is published, even if we must write an article every day in order to reach them. To start them off and at the same time to advertise various phases of the work, we released the two articles, given on the enclosed yellow sheets, one day this week. The 'Public Ledger' of this city published them, as you will see from the clipping. I am sorry that the 'Ledger' used my name in connection with it, however. (continued over)

"Our latest request for press service is from the 'Norristown Daily Register,' and by the end of next week we expect to be serving the 'Salisbury (Md.) Advertiser' and 'Wicomico News.' This is one of the largest papers down on the Eastern Shore.

"Latest reports from the Eastern Shore of Maryland state that the outlook for peaches is very good, with a slight increase in production. Many growers are to try asparagus and lettuce in place of sweet potatoes and cantaloupes. Strawberries came through the winter in good shape, but heavy spring rains recently have not helped them any. However, if they have good growing weather from now on, a good crop is expected. One report gives the estimated production for lower Maryland and Delaware at 4,000 cars. Tomatoes around Salisbury will be increased about 20% this season. Most farmers are using the wilt-resistant varieties."

6b. RADIO AN ECONOMIC AID TO FARMER.

Below is a copy of one of the press releases put out by the Philadelphia office. It is referred to in Mr. Scott's letter, in the item just above this:

"Not only is radio affording amusement to hundreds of thousands of country people every night, but it has proven a real economic asset as well.

"Picture two farmers, tilling adjoining tracts of land 'way out in the country somewhere. One has a radio set and keeps up with market conditions, sports, the latest music and current events. Which will make the most money and raise the most intelligent family? Right here within the radio vicinity of Philadelphia there are hundreds of up-to-date farmers who can answer this from personal experience.

"The radio farmer knows the time and market upon which to sell his crop at the best figure. The regular reports sent out by the Weather Bureau have become a real necessity to him. In addition to this, the radio has proven its worth as an agency of pleasure and mental recreation to the dullness of farm life. The farm no longer means isolation to the young folks; they can tune in on the city theatres and spend an evening of real enjoyment. At this time, when so many persons are leaving the farms, the radio has come in and established itself as an important contribution to the contentment of rural life.

"In this section there are a dozen or more stations which broadcast music and educational programs. The market reports, issued by the United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics, are broadcast by Stations WFI and WIP in Philadelphia and Station WJZ in New York."

The second press release from Philadelphia asks for suggestions from radio fans as to changes in the Philadelphia radio program.

READ "THE B.A.E. NEWS" REGULARLY.

Its contents are always good, but this week it carries quite a number of exceptionally interesting items.

7b. MORE ABOUT THE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, wrote as follows in a letter of April 15:

"The foot and mouth disease epidemic has not only caused a depression in the consumption of meats and meat products, but dealers and shippers of fruits and vegetables are complaining that it has materially injured the demand for their wares. Although people are advised that there is no danger in eating the meats offered at the retail markets, the retailers state that the demand has fallen off over 25 per cent. It would appear that the local demand for fruits and vegetables would be stimulated, but dealers in this line are also complaining, and evidently the people are going through a period of fasting.

"Fresh fruits and vegetables are unconditionally shut out by New Mexico, Idaho, Arizona and Nevada. Washington and Oregon require fumigation of all fruits and vegetables, and a certificate to the effect that produce originated in an area free from infection. Utah requires that fruits and vegetables be certified to have originated in an area free from infection, by State or Federal representatives.

"Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada require fumigation of farm laborers, unless they can produce an affidavit to the effect that they have not been in the affected area. Arizona has gone so far as to prohibit automobiles from California to cross the State line. Considering the entire epidemic, it is proving a barrier to industry in almost every line."

8b. COMMENTS ON THE HONEY MARKET REPORTS.

On page 4 of this week's "B.A.E. News" is a most interesting letter, commenting on the condition of bee colonies in the West. The "English" used in this letter is fascinating. Read it for yourself; see what you make of it.

The Kansas City office has been circularizing its mailing list for the market reports on honey, and has received a number of replies almost as interesting as the letter quoted in the "B.A.E. News." One of these is from a woman in California, and is quoted verbatim belows:

"As now Reports come from sources whoes sole aim is to keep koney prices to as low as level as posable, the honey buyer. These reports are a detrement to the bee industry or any other industry reported as they have a tendency to keep price to the lowest poasble level merchants will not pay any more than these reports and as thes reports are allways given in the lowest posable prices by those who are interested in keeping the prices down it is a detrement to the bee industry Bee men are discouraged and let tin there bee die rather then keep them fedd as there is no profits in return for their upkeep. These reports are the cause of all the low prices in the farming line."

On top of all this, the subscriber in question says "Yes,"-she desires the honey reports continued to her address.

9b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

A few days ago, there were distributed to interested persons copies of "The South Texas Bermuda Onion Summary, Season of 1923," by V. D. Callanan. Additional copies can be obtained from the Washington office.

10b. "BROCCOLI" FROM NEW JERSEY.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced lately in classifying the reports of carlot shipments of "broccoli" from New Jersey. F. M. Patton went to Landisville and vicinity, to look into the matter, and until a final decision is reached these shipment reports will be temporarily disregarded. In a wire on Wednesday, Mr. Patton advised: "Broccoli cut about eight inches long. Shipped in bunches. Has very small head, probably half-inch diameter." O. D. Miller, of the New York office, wrote as follows in a letter of April 23:-

"This city has received no shipments of this commodity in straight carlots, but a considerable amount is being received in less-than-carlots.

"In a list of receipts which we have been carrying on our daily reports, we have not included New Jersey 'broccoli' with that from Oregon, which we have been grouping with California cauliflower. The broccoli arriving here from Oregon and California is practically the same vegetable as cauliflower, but the commodity termed 'broccoli' arriving here from New Jersey and Virginia is a vegetable very much on the order of turnip greens. I have instructed our people to include receipts of the latter under the heading of 'mixed greens.' Beet tops and turnip tops are other commodities which we are including under this heading.

"Recent reports of shipments of cauliflower, included with the shipments of other commodities relayed from Washington, have included a number of cars of New Jersey stock. Since you are grouping Oregon broccoli with California cauliflower under the heading of 'cauliflower,' I assume that these 'cauliflower' shipments from New Jersey are 'broccoli.' If so, they are simply the commodity resembling turnip greens, which I have mentioned above. Including shipments of this commodity from New Jersey with the other cauliflower shipments has been a source of considerable confusion to some of our subscribers here, and we have been questioned about this a number of times within the last few days. I hardly know what to recommend in order to overcome this difficulty, but I suggest you either include New Jersey 'broccoli' with mixed vegetables or report it as 'broccoli greens,' but continue to include Oregon broccoli with cauliflower, as that practice is perfectly satisfactory to the trade."

11b. DISTRIBUTION OF IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE.

Final destinations were obtained by C. E. Schultz on all cars of Imperial Valley lettuce shipped between January 8 and April 10. Of approximately 8,300 cars marketed during that time, more than 5,200 went to the 12 leading cities listed below:

Chicago..... 1964 cars	Pittsburgh.....231 cars	Detroit..... 193 cars
New York..... 747 "	Buffalo.....237 "	San Francisco 191 "
Los Angeles.... 473 "	Kansas City....236 "	Portland.... 182 "
Philadelphia... 343 "	Baltimore.....195 "	St.Louis.... 171 "

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions *	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	May 10 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	Robert Bier	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	May 1
HAMMOND, LA. P.O.Bldg.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Apr. 1	May 3(?)
HASTINGS, FLA. Byrd Bldg.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 14	May 20
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS **	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 23	May 20

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

CHARLESTON, S. C.**	858	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 30 May 10	May 15 June 10
MOBILE, ALA.**	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 28 May 15 May 15	May 31 June 25 June 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.**	805	V. D. Callanan	Berries	May 1	May 20
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	R. L. Sutton	Berries	May 5	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 5	May 31
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	Unassigned	Berries	May 12	May 31
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	Unassigned	Cabbage Tomatoes	May 15 June 1	June 10 June 30
MONETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 19	June 14
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 26	July 12

* Reports discontinued.

** State Dept.cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson)
G. A. DeHaven) To Florida for inspection work.
G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office.
C. E. Schultz, c/o Los Angeles office.
C. L. Brown in New York City after May 1.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. BERMUDA ONION INSPECTIONS.

Wires from Mr. Sherman, at Laredo, request that particular attention of the receiving-point Inspectors be called to the definition of seed stems under the revised Bermuda onion grades. Soft seed stems are not excluded from U. S. Grade. No. 1. I have asked for samples to show just what onions are being passed in Laredo and what are being thrown out of the No. 1 Grade.

Mr. Sherman also calls attention to the fact that shipping-point inspectors pour back their samples on the tops of the crates. If such crates should be selected by the receiving-point inspectors, they might show an improper percentage of small or defective onions when the top of the crate only is inspected. It is advisable, for this reason, to go to the bottom of the crates rather than to take the sample from the top layers only.

Request has also been made for samples of noticeably pink onions. I hope to be able to distribute these within the next few days, so that the certificates at shipping and receiving points may be based on similar interpretations of the grade specifications.

2c. THOROUGH INSPECTIONS.

Attention of all Inspectors is called again to the importance of absolute thoroughness in inspection work. Every case on which an Inspector is called to testify in court or to produce a copy of certificate emphasizes the necessity for attention to details. Such matters as method of loading, tightness of pack, temperature of different parts of load, and number of packages examined, have an important bearing on the decisions in such cases. Our notes must be complete and certificate statements must be consistent.

Attention to such details requires time. No Inspector should sacrifice accuracy for the sake of speed. The service has never been seriously criticized because of work which it did not do, but Inspectors have been criticized, and justly so, for work which was not thoroughly done. When a man attempts to make more than ten inspections a day, he is inclined to neglect important details. This is especially true where the Inspector has to look after clerical details, in addition to his inspection work. Only under exceptional circumstances and in the case of products which can be easily inspected should more than ten cars a day be attempted. Do not let your desire to accommodate the trade, or your desire to make a good monthly showing for your office, lead you into attempting more than you can do properly.

3c. INSPECTION WORK AT WINTER HAVEN.

Chas. Brooks, a cooperative inspector now stationed at Winter Haven, Fla., states that the inspection service stands in high favor at that point. For the next four weeks Mr. Brooks says that he will be making inspections of at least 20 cars of citrus fruit per week.

4c. CREASING OF ORANGES.

In response to my request, Dr. D.H. Rose has prepared the following article on the creasing of oranges. Such oranges are not admitted to any recognized grades at shipping points, both because of their appearance and because of their susceptibility to decay.

"Attention of Inspectors is called to creasing of Florida oranges which are now being marketed. This is a condition which occurs anywhere on the fruit as sunken streaks or creases, half an inch to an inch or more long and usually not more than an eighth of an inch wide. The creases are sometimes very slight and barely distinguishable, sometimes so markedly sunken that they appear as positive wrinkles or furrows. Sometimes the injury occurs not as a crease but as an irregularly-shaped depression large enough to receive the end of a finger or thumb. The peel over the sunken part may show no color change at all, or it may be faintly gray to yellowish-green.

"Creasing is found on both Florida and California oranges, on any variety, and at any time of the year. It is thought to be due to changes in the weather; that is, from wet to dry or vice versa, the latter probably causing the most trouble. Such changes seem to set up strains in the fruit which bring about a cracking of the inner white portion of the peel. The outer orange-colored portion remains intact, as a covering over the crack. This condition can be best understood by carefully cutting the creased peel in a plane, as nearly parallel as possible to the pulp but without cutting the latter. There will then be exposed a narrow strip of the outside of the pulp, lying between two ragged edges of the white part of the peel,--a pulp 'river' between 'banks' of white peel. Consequently, in a lot of oranges, some of which show creasing, careful cutting will show that slight invisible creasing (the cracks described above) occurs in other oranges of the same lot. It seems likely that such creasing becomes visible through the drying out and collapsing of the thin covering over the cracks in the white part of the peel.

"This leads to another possibility, namely, that creasing may become evident in high percentage during the marketing process on fruit which at picking time showed very little of it. Mr. Newton, of New Orleans, reports that he recently examined a lot of oranges in which there was 20% of creasing. He held a number of apparently sound specimens from this lot for several days and, at the end of the time, 50% of these showed creasing.

"In oranges that show only mild creasing, the pulp beneath the creases is apparently unaffected. But in oranges showing the marked furrows or the large irregular depressions mentioned above, the pulp underlying such places is often dry to the depth of about a quarter of an inch, and there is more or less separation of the juice sacks."

It is evident, from the above description of this defect, that it may generally be classed with those defects which may develop in transit, and it should be so treated when making reinspections or "inspections for condition only." If the creases are so deep that the pulp is affected, they may be considered as grade defects, for it is unlikely that they could have developed in transit.

The following items are taken from the Florida News Letter:

5c. CITRUS GROWERS ADOPT U.S. GRADES AND INSPECTION.

In addition to the information given in Par. 6c of the last D.L. regarding the important meeting held at Orlando on April 8 and 9, at which the citrus growers and shippers passed resolutions favoring the U. S. grades and inspection, the following interesting comments are published in the Florida News Letter:

A good thing advertises itself. This is well brought out by the great amount of publicity that has been given shipping-point inspection work the past two months. The following quotation has been taken from an article in "The Florida Grower," written by D. C. Gillett, an official of the Florida Citrus Exchange:

"To make it possible for all marketing agencies of citrus fruits in Florida to come under one head, it would be of prime importance to agree on certain market standards of fruit quality, and the inspectors having control over the passing of fruit put out by various packing houses should not rest with any one of these individual agencies. Not even the Florida Citrus Exchange may be said to be qualified to do this, for, in fact, this is a real Government job.

"There is no question but that the Bureau of Markets, U.S. Department of Agriculture, if approached in a proper manner and receiving the proper financial support from the Florida marketing agencies, would provide for these standards and train and furnish the necessary inspectors to see that these fruit standards were maintained and carried out. In fact, every box of Florida oranges going out of the State into interstate commerce should be stamped under seal in exactly the same way that Government inspectors pass meat products at the various authorized packing plants.

"Every box should bear the stamp 'U. S. Inspected and Passed,' giving the authorized grade on every box. This matter of standardizing grades is the first fundamental in stabilizing marketing conditions of our Florida citrus fruits."

6c. INSPECTIONS OF EARLY CITRUS SHOWING ACID TEST.

On Tuesday evening, April 8, Mr. Bier delivered a brief talk on the inspection of green fruit before a meeting of the Fruitmen's Club. As a result, a committee of five of the leading shippers was appointed to take up the question of Government inspection on early fruit. This committee, at a recent meeting, decided to have Government inspection on the early citrus showing the acid test of the fruit. Inspections of this kind will probably start some time in September.

7c. TOMATOES AT PALMETTO, FLA.

Recent communications from C. H. Behnke indicate that the tomato crop at Palmetto on the whole will be satisfactory, despite the rainy weather of last month. On April 14 he wrote as follows:

"It rained considerably during the night, but no damage has resulted

thus far from it; in fact, it has been beneficial to most of the tomato fields. Some Nail Head is showing up on the vines but, for the most part, the fields look fine. It is becoming more evident to me every day that we will not be going very strong until after May 1 and that there will be lots of tomatoes left to ship after June 1, providing weather conditions remain right in the meantime.

"I was talking with the Fruit Growers Express representative today and he estimates 1,500 cars out of this district. We should get at least 75% of this tonnage for inspection, with most of the factors committed to the service. The bulk of this will move in four weeks."

On April 16 the following was received from Mr. Behnke: "I was out in a number of tomato fields this afternoon and, on the whole, they look good. The disastrous effects of the rainy weather during the early part of the growing season here is plainly evident now, as most of the crown hands have only a 20% set. The rest of the hands on the plant generally have made a good set. There is plenty of Nail Head on the vines but, where dusting is being conscientiously done, the fruit is still comparatively free of it."

8c. INSPECTIONS AT HASTINGS, FLA.

A. E. Mercker, in charge of inspections at Hastings, writes that, in spite of the rainy weather last week, 77 cars were inspected and, if the weather permits, at least 150 cars will be inspected this week. The Hastings deal is a very short and fast one, requiring many men and machines to do the work efficiently. Practically all inspections are made in the field, which necessitates constant shifting of the men from one farm to another. That a good many inspections will be made at this point is indicated in one of Mr. Mercker's statements: "However, we will keep the ball rolling, and there ought to be 500 cars weekly from this section during the next four weeks."

9c. ORANGE AND LETTUCE INSPECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA.

In accordance with Mr. Samson's suggestion, W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the California Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, sent in the following important items regarding oranges and lettuce:

"First cars of Valencia oranges of the 1924 season are now moving from the Porterville section, and a large number of these shipments are being inspected by the California service. It is estimated that considerably less than one-half of the crop will be moved, due to frost damage sustained during the month of December. The shippers, cooperating with the Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Department of the State, are making every effort to keep frosted fruit off the markets, and practically all of the crop is being run through the water separator.

"Lettuce shipments are now moving from three coastal lettuce districts, centered at Salinas, Watsonville and Guadalupe. At a recent meeting held at Salinas, the shippers unanimously endorsed shipping-point inspection, and stated that they expect to have practically all their cars inspected this season, comprising the bulk of the lettuce moved from the State during the next eight months."

10c. REVISED ADDRESS LIST FOR FLORIDA INSPECTORS.

Please note carefully the following addresses of our own men in Florida. Many of them have moved recently from their former locations to the addresses given below:

ROBERT BIER, Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, until May 1 only.
 W.V. STEPHENS, Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, until May 1 only.
 (After May 1 at Charleston, S. C.)
 A. E. MERCKER, Byrd Bldg., Hastings.
 R. M. PETERSON, Elkton.
 P. D. RUPERT, P.O. Box 205, Okeechobee.
 B. E. SHAFFER, Morgan Apts., Arcadia.
 F. E. HOOPER, 136 Royal Palm Ave., Fort Myers.
 C. H. BEHNKE, P.O. Box 238, Palmetto.
 G. A. DEHAVEN, " " " "
 J. C. TOWNSEND, Jr., " " "
 E. E. CONKLIN, Jr., Angebilt Hotel, Orlando.

11c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS.

Inspections made during the period April 1 to 15 were as follows:-

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars</u>
Arcadia.....	22	Tomatoes.....	195
Fort Myers.....	57	Celery.....	167
Hastings.....	53	Potatoes.....	71
Homestead.....	200	Cabbage.....	32
Leesburg.....	32	Mixed Vegetables.....	3
Palmetto.....	86	Total.....	468
Sanford.....	93	Grapefruit.....	66
Winter Haven.....	42	Oranges.....	51
TOTAL.....	590	Mixed Citrus.....	5
		Total.....	122

In the Division Letter for April 11, Par. 10c, inspections for the second half of March were tabulated. Grand total this season to the end of March was given as 5,223 cars. By adding the 590 cars inspected during the first half of April, the total to April 15 is 5,813. Daily average inspections, which were 52 the last half of March, had decreased further to 45 the first part of April. Total vegetables inspections since the beginning of this service last November are 4,053, and total citrus fruits 1,760 cars. Total inspections by sections have been as follows:

Sanford.....	1,485	Clearwater.....	365
Homestead.....	1,197	Orlando.....	325
Palmetto.....	1,123	Leesburg.....	223
Winter Haven.....	535	Hastings.....	58
Fort Myers.....	480	Arcadia.....	22

12c. GRADES FOR STRING BEANS; BUNCHED BEETS, CARROTS AND TURNIPS.

With this Division Letter, every Inspector is being sent a copy of the U.S. Grades for the four products:

String Beans - Wax or Green. Bunched Carrots.
 Bunched Beets. Bunched Turnips.

13c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK STARTED IN MISSISSIPPI.

Writing from Laurel, Miss., under date of April 23, F. S. Kinsey, Supervising Inspector, tells of the starting of inspection work in that State:-

"Last Friday the first Federal-State inspection was made at a shipping point in Mississippi, - a big event in the town in which it occurred, if not in the State as a whole. I expected to break in an inspector at this time, but, as he decided he didn't want the job, I made the inspection myself. It was a car of bunched turnips; the third car of truck ever to have been shipped from the small town of Silver Creek.

"It is through the guarantee of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Truck Association that we have been brought into Mississippi, which means inspections at many points where not only grading will be new but where even the trucking industry is new. Fortunately, we have the cooperation of the County Agents and the extension department of the A. & M. College.

"Thursday night Mr. Patterson and Mr. Beckstrom, of the extension department of the College, stayed at Brookhaven, expecting to drive the 50 miles to Silver Creek early the next morning. But a Noah's flood happened in the night and the next morning we got stuck in the mud twice-- had taken the wrong road, -- so did not arrive until after 10 o'clock.

"More than half the carload of turnips was already bunched and each man's lot piled by itself on the floor of the packing shed, which was just then being roofed. The turnips ranged in size from about 1 inch to 3 inches, about two-thirds under 2 inches. The tops ranged up to more than 2 feet in length. The only instructions had been to 'pull turnips,' and there was some misunderstanding as to size and trimming.

"The rest of the carload arrived by mules and wagons before 2 o'clock, but the bunching and packing took time, and nobody was expert, and the car was to be pulled at 3:20. And the hampers had to be iced, too. They were putting a double handful of ice in the top of each hamper, and then turning every other hamper upside-down in the car. I gained a feather in the cap of the Service by suggesting that the ice be placed in the center of the hamper, where heating is most likely to occur and where the water could run at least half way through every hamper.

"Finally, with the aid of a large force of interested growers, the President and the Secretary of the local organization, the County Agent, the railroad Agricultural Agent, and the two Extension Agents of the State College, the turnips were packed, loaded, iced over top of load and the load braced, and the local train had to wait only five minutes to pull the car. Naturally, I had all I could do to make suggestions and take notes. If every organization could get help like this, and show an equal interest in shipping-point inspection work, it would be a pleasure to act as inspector. Needless to say, the certificate could not show any particular grade of turnips."

F. G. ROBE,

Specialist in Inspection.

IMPORTANT:- (YOU WILL MAKE A BIG MISTAKE, if you do not read ALL of this D. L.
(It is packed with valuable information from cover to cover.

OFFICE NOTES:

Roland L. Sutton, of Virginia, has been appointed a Junior Marketing Specialist (F&V), and has reported for a brief period of training under R. H. Lamb, at the Hammond, La., field station of the Market News Service. He will then go to Judsonia, Ark., to operate the field station on strawberries. It will be remembered that, during the latter half of 1922, Mr. Sutton was cooperative market reporter with the State of New Jersey in our New York office, and for the past few months he has been one of the cooperative shipping-point inspectors under Robert Bier, in Florida. Mr. Sutton has had considerable practical experience in orchard work and the fruit business, and for a while he was employed by the Maryland State Board of Forestry. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, and completed a short post-graduate course in the College of Agriculture, specializing in Pomology.

George W. Winfrey, of Arkansas, has been given an appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist, effective May 5. He will report for duty at Jackson, Miss., where he will assist F. S. Kinsey with shipping-point inspection work. Mr. Winfrey received his B.S. degree from the University of Arkansas in 1918, having specialized in Horticulture. Previously, he had been employed as Student Assistant in the Dept. of Plant Pathology at that institution, and in 1917-18 was Office Deputy of the Arkansas State Plant Board. From 1918 to 1919, Mr. Winfrey served as 2nd Lieutenant in the Army, and subsequently operated a 320-acre fruit and truck farm in Crawford County, Arkansas. At the time of his appointment to this Bureau, Mr. Winfrey was employed as Field Inspector by the State Plant Board.

J. Charles Townsend, Jr., of South Carolina, also has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist (F&V), and will report for duty about June 1. It is expected that his first assignment will be in Mississippi, to assist with the shipping-point inspection work on tomatoes. At present, Mr. Townsend is on the Florida inspection staff, working under the direction of C. H. Behnke, at Palmetto. Mr. Townsend is a graduate of Clemson College, S. C., having received the B.S. degree in 1922. He was employed as Principal of the Rockville S.C., graded school for about a year. In the summer of 1923, Mr. Townsend was a cooperative inspector at shipping points in his State, and since the first of the present year has been assisting with the similar work in Florida.

Herbert Graff, of the New York staff, made a trip to Crozet, Va., last week, where he inspected a lot of apples in storage. Some time previous to that, N. C. Farnworth, of the Washington office, had been at Crozet for a like purpose.

Mr. Sherman was at Asherton on Thursday, and then planned to go to Austin, Texas; Stillwater, Okla., and Kansas City, Mo., reaching the last city by Monday.

Word from Mr. Samson indicates that he visited the Spokane office on Thursday and would be at Walla Walla, Wash., today. From there, he will go to Boise, Idaho, and Denver, Colo.

OFFICE NOTES; (Continued)

Just before leaving Idaho Falls for Texas, and since arriving at Laredo, A. E. Prugh received quite a number of commendations of his work in Idaho this season. Trade papers and newspapers especially seem pleased with the write-ups on potato marketing problems, which Mr. Prugh frequently published in connection with his market reports.

Page 22A of the "New York Packer" for April 12 devoted some space to a review of the March unloads of fruit and vegetables on the St. Louis market, as summarized in a report by V. G. Gibson.

M. C. Gregory, of the Fort Worth office, will go to Ripley, Tenn., by the end of this week, to make preparations for the shipping-point inspection of strawberries in that region. James A. Marks likewise will proceed from Pittsburgh to Chattanooga, to supervise the work on berries in eastern Tennessee.

V. D. Callanan came to Washington a few days ago, and will assist in the local office until next week, when he proceeds to Chadbourn, N. C., to issue market reports on strawberries.

The departure of C. L. Brown for New York City has been delayed until about May 1. He is working in Washington this week on the revision of the Market News handbook.

W. J. Bertush, who has been assisting with inspection work in New York since the first of the year, is expected to reach Washington this Saturday, en route to South Carolina, where he will issue market reports on cabbage and potatoes. On the list of field stations, it will be observed that the location of this station will be Charleston, instead of Meggett, as originally planned.

H. E. Rutland, whose appointment to the News Service was mentioned in the last D. L., has gone to Chicago, where he will help Mr. Hall temporarily. It is expected that G. D. Clark, the present technical assistant in Chicago, will be given field work for a few months.

Congratulations are extended J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, on the arrival of a young son in his home a few weeks ago.

F. M. Patton is on a short trip to Philadelphia and points in New Jersey in the interest of shipment reports. He will then go to Cleveland, Toledo and Detroit, to look into the matter of hothouse products and the reports of boat shipments on Lake Erie.

Many changes are occurring in the location of Supervising Inspectors who have been working in Florida. Please note carefully the list published on another page of this D. L.

It is planned to start inspection about May 6; W. V. Stephens will be the inspection of tomatoes at Homestead discontinued.

work on potatoes at Charleston, S. C., charge. Mr. Stephens had been supervising Fla., but that service was recently

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Inspection of potatoes also will be inaugurated at Beaufort, S. C., about May 20, with F. E. Hooper as Supervising Inspector. Mr. Hooper is at present handling inspection work in the Fort Myers section of Florida.

Tomatoes and watermelons will be inspected at shipping points around Ocala, Fla., starting about May 20. It is planned to place R. M. Peterson in charge of that work. The work at Leesburg, where Mr. Peterson has been stationed, was discontinued last week, and he is at present assisting with inspection of potatoes at Elkton, Fla., which ranks second only to Hastings as a potato-shipping point.

The Orlando office of the Florida inspection service will be closed by May 1, and Robert Bier will make his headquarters at some other point in the State, possibly Leesburg or Ocala.

The local address of O. G. Strauss is First Floor, Custom House, Mobile, Ala. Mr. Strauss is in charge of shipping-point inspection work in that district. Our Market News office, - J. D. Evers, in charge, - also will be located in the Custom House.

Both E. F. McKune and Neal D. Sanborn attended the meeting of cantaloupe growers and shippers, and business men, at Rocky Ford, Colo., about two weeks ago, where explanation was made of the Colorado Inspection Service. The cantaloupe interests in that section are favorably considering the use of Federal-State inspection on this season's shipments. Mr. McKune recently spent a few days on his ranch at Fort Morgan.

F. A. Powell has been working up the lettuce deals for next fall in the Eagle and Avon districts of Colorado, and it now looks as if the Inspection Service will get 100% of the business of these shippers.

Colorado is closing its inspection work for this season with a total of 9,946 cars inspected at shipping points throughout the State. Only scattering cars will be examined the remainder of this season.

P. D. Rupert, who was assisting with tomato inspections in the Homestead district of Florida, is now continuing this work at Okeechobee, at the north end of Lake Okeechobee. Mail should be addressed to P. O. Box 205.

George A. DeHaven has returned to Palmetto, where he is helping Mr. Behnke with inspections. Inspector R. W. Hines has succeeded Mr. DeHaven at Sanford, Fla.

Robert Bier delivered an address on "The Value of Point-of-Origin Inspection of Fruits and Vegetables" before the annual meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society, at Tampa, on April 24. On Wednesday he visited the State Marketing Bureau office at Jacksonville, and on Thursday stopped at our Palmetto office to make a survey of conditions in that territory.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., in charge of standardization work in Florida, also attended the Horticultural Society meetings at Tampa, April 22 to 25.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The "New York Produce News" for April 19 contained on page 7 the complete review of the Imperial Valley lettuce season, issued by C. E. Schultz.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO EVERYBODY:

Both the Philadelphia and the New York offices will be moved by May 1. All future mail and other communications should be addressed as follows:

Philadelphia -

238 Municipal Pier No. 4, South,
Chestnut Street and Delaware Avenue.

New York City -

Sixth Floor, Steinhardt & Kelly Bldg.,
102 Warren Street. (Telephone, Barclay 5240)

Although the firm of Steinhardt & Kelly has its place of business on the Washington Street market, evidently the entrance to our offices is on Warren Street. Please make these changes on all your address lists.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 18

May 2, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. SERIOUS POTATO AND ONION SITUATION IN CALIFORNIA.

Writing under date of April 23, C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, tells of the serious situation confronted by potato and onion dealers in northern California:-

"California is experiencing one of the nearest financial disasters it has faced for a number of years. This is not only true with the live-stock men but also with the dealers and growers of fresh fruits and vegetables, especially those located in San Francisco.

"At this writing, Oregon and the Hawaiian Islands have an absolute quarantine against California products. The Hawaiian Islands have always been supplied with fresh fruits and vegetables through the port of San Francisco. This especially has been a big outlet for potatoes. The enforcement of the quarantine has practically demoralized the potato market in every city in California. Potatoes that were formerly shipped from here are now leaving from Seattle, and dealers are trying to devise some means by which they may re-ship their potatoes to Washington, where most of them originate, and then shipment could be made to the Hawaiian Islands from the port of Seattle. It is reported that this has already been done and that oranges and other fruits are accepted from Seattle, although they will not be accepted from San Francisco.

"According to the State Division of Markets' semi-monthly cold storage report, there are 64,702 bags of potatoes in storage at San Francisco, an increase of 14,315 bags over the previous two weeks. Notwithstanding this, there are 55,000 bags held at the wholesale potato wharf, Pier 27, of which it is expected that 20,000 will be placed in cold storage rather than take a chance on the demand opening and to hinder the sprouting, which would materialize in a few days' time on account of the warm weather. The cold storage holdings for the entire State of California on April 15 were 208,416 bags, against 175,759 bags on April 1, 1924, and 73,147 bags on April 15, 1923.

"Most of these potatoes were bought around \$2 f.o.b. shipping-points in Washington and Idaho. Many dealers would gladly take \$2.25 today, f.o.b. San Francisco and unload, if they could find the buyers, but there is only a murmur of a demand. It is evident that, unless the market breaks for the better, prices will still decline and there will be fewer dealers in the business next year, as almost the entire deal has been a losing proposition. This quantity of old potatoes must be consumed within the next 30 days, as after that period it is expected ample new potatoes will be on the market to supply the demand.

(Continued over)

"In view of the fact that all potato dealers are also handlers of onions, they will not only experience a loss on the former product but most of them have already taken their loss on the onions and have moved figures from the credit side of the ledger.

Dealers Lose Heavily

"In a measure this has been one of the most successful years for producers, -the general quality of the onions having been fine. It is only recently that the common-storage onions were cleaned up. The quality of the Australian Browns was par excellent; they were of good size, with heavy skin, and were keeping as well as, and even better than, the cold-storage stock. This was due primarily to the favorable conditions while growing and the exceedingly dry and cool weather after harvesting.

"Early in the season Australian Brown onions were contracted for a price ranging from \$1.75 to \$2.25 f.o.b. river banks. Most of the purchases were made at \$2.00-2.25. The charge of transportation to San Francisco was 6 cents. These onions were placed in storage at the rate of 50 cents per bag for the season, bringing the total cost from \$2.50 to \$2.80 per 100 lbs., f.o.b. icehouse. Added to this must be the charge of repacking, if necessary, cartage and loading on cars, which amounts to 25-35 cents.

"The highest price obtained for Australian Browns was about the middle of September, when prices reached \$2.25-2.35,--scarcely more than the price which the shipper had paid the grower on his farm. By the first of November they dropped to a range of \$1.50-1.75; by December first they declined to a lower level at \$1.30-1.50. The middle of December showed an upward movement to \$1.50-1.60, and the next highest level was reached in the middle of January at \$1.80-1.90, when the market soon broke, and today these onions are moving slowly at \$1.15-1.25, repacked from the icehouse, f.o.b. car.

"The peak of the storage holdings of onions was reached in the early part of January, when 335,000 bags were reported for the entire State. Added to this amount were approximately 100,000- bags in common storage. On April 15 there still remained 73,377 bags of onions in cold storage and none in common storage. This quantity equals around 240 carloads, which must be moved before the Texas and Coachella Valley onions kill the demand. It is commonly rumored that there is not a dealer in late onions, who has not taken a big loss financially.

"On account of adverse climatic conditions, California, for the first time in memory of most of the dealers, has not been able to produce sufficient homegrown cabbage to meet the local demand. The early flat Dutch type cabbage grown around the Bay District is cleaned up. In all previous seasons, by the time the flat Dutch cabbage was through, spring Winnigstadt cabbage has been in abundance to supply the trade, but this year the yield is not only light but the crop is late in maturing. We have, therefore, broken the precedent, and cabbage is being received in San Francisco from Texas, selling at 5 to 6 cents per pound, - a price never before realized. What little local cabbage is available is bringing 4 to 5 cents per pound."

2a. PEACHES AND DEWBERRIES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The April issue of the "Farm Forecaster," issued jointly by this Department and the North Carolina Division of Markets, contains the following excellent article by Frank Palmer, Agricultural Statistician for that State. It appeared under the heading: "Observations on a Trip through the Sandhill Fruit Section":-

The good roads through the Sandhill fruit section make traveling and a study of the commercial fruit orchards an easy job. Visits in peach orchards were not prevented by the rain. To say the least, there are many peach and dewberry fields in Moore County. They are in good condition, too, including tilth and fruitfulness. From the information gained, it appears that the cold weather about April 1st did most damage. The young trees suffered most, and the greatest damage to peaches was from Aberdeen to Hamlet, with the least around Biscoe and Candor. The Aberdeen section is reported to have a crop outlook of 65 to 75 per cent of a full or normal crop. It is almost normal in Montgomery County.

This does not mean that there will not be a large peach crop; in fact, the shipments will perhaps be the largest in North Carolina's history. More than 2,000 cars are easily anticipated. As a matter of fact the cold did many growers more good than harm. This was due to the thinning action. There is usually a heavy "drop" of young peaches, and especially so when the "setting" is heavy. It is the practice in the Sandhills to pick up the curculio-strong drops and to destroy them. The cold has meant that there will be fewer drops and less of the expensive hand-thinning to be done.

The orchards are, as a rule, in well-tilled condition. They have been recently cultivated and fertilized. All have been carefully pruned with open centers. Most of the slim heavily-budded "switches" were pruned off, to leave but a few fruit buds each. Several orchards were so perfectly pruned that, had an immense mowing machine passed over them, the tops would have been left no smoother or more level. It is becoming recognized that the Sandhills peach orchards are the best or most scientifically handled in the United States. They are pruned early in the year, winter or dormant-sprayed twice, cultivated several times a year, fertilized, summer-sprayed five to eight times with poison and lime sulphur, thinned, the drops picked up every week, wormed or "gassed" in the fall, and cover crops are grown to benefit the soil and to supply plant food for the trees. This is aside from the picking, grading and crating care necessary for first-class marketing. It is what causes that wonderful color, firm body, uniform size, and the carrying and eating qualities of the famous "Red Skins."

The dewberries are quite a big crop also. Not so pretty or extensively grown as the peaches. They pay more per acre, however. Montgomery County was distinctly more behind in its farm work. Many farms showed no signs of any spring plowing. Practically no planting has been done. The rains have been just frequent enough to prevent the needed breaking of land. The farm work is quite late, but many said they do not plan to plant before May first anyway. *** Fertilizers are quite the thing this year. Every one is using more pounds and higher grades. The farmers are expecting to put forth a mighty effort this year. They are devoid of the usual depressed spirit. In spite of no hired labor available, they are going right ahead. Their plans distinctly tend toward "safer farming."

3a. OREGON POTATOES IN CALIFORNIA.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, wrote as follows to R. L. Ringer, at Portland, on April 24:-

"Since the season for Oregon Burbanks seems to be about closed, I thought I would drop you a line (as suggested in your letter of several months ago) as to the impressions made upon the trade generally by new methods in grading.

"I think the trade generally is pleased with the quality and condition of Oregon receipts this year, and nearly all of them have mentioned improvement in quality, which can be traced to the enforcement of the Oregon grading law. As you know, the greatest drawback to the use of Oregons on this market has been their lack of uniformity, caused both by the lack of uniform grading rules and by the large number of lots commonly found in each car. Since I understand that production in much of Oregon comes from small acreages, it is doubtless impossible to secure uniform stock, such as is received from Washington, Idaho, and the Delta, where the entire car will represent stock taken from one cellar or one field.

"While the grading of all potatoes shipped has done much to improve the uniformity of Oregon stock, yet U. S. Grade No. 1 may contain potatoes of quite dissimilar appearance. For instance, one lot may run large but may bear blemishes right up to the tolerance permitted, and another lot may be medium to small and yet be smooth. A striking example of this was found early in the season, when two cars of Oregon Burbanks sold on the same day: One, a car of large size, U. S. No. 2, evidently having failed to pass the requirements of No. 1, sold freely at \$2.30 per cwt., while the other, a car of U. S. Grade No. 1, smooth but very small, being just above the size requirements, sold with difficulty at \$2.00 per cwt.

"The potato market here is just beginning to get out of a violent slump, as both receivers and jobbers completely lost their nerve last week, so that the market was practically demoralized for several days. Present reports received by the trade indicate that Washington and Oregon are nearly cleaned up, and that Idaho has not to exceed 400 or 500 cars. If this is true, it is likely that old potatoes will clean up in good shape, even though storage holdings in Los Angeles are 90,000 sacks. It is perhaps fortunate that the new crop is late, because we will have to eat most of our own potatoes unless present quarantine restrictions are modified by the time the new crop is ready for shipment. I do not look for any shipments of new stock until after June 15th, the Shafter district, of course, being the earliest section in this part of the country. San Diego County, always a producer of early potatoes, has a reduced acreage, and the local markets have been absorbing most of our stock."

KEEP THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ADVISED

of any new developments in your office or your territory.
Letters of that kind make excellent material for the D.L.

Our readers like to keep in touch with events
in all parts of the country.

4a. NORTHWESTERN APPLE CROP DAMAGED BY FREEZE.

In a letter received from Dr. D. F. Fisher, a Pathologist in the Division of Fruit-Disease Investigations, B. P. I., he states that preliminary investigations around Wenatchee indicate severe damage to the apple crop in Washington. Three freezes on the nights of April 22, 23 and 24, with the hardest the last night, caused the injury. This is the first general freeze of this kind ever experienced in the Wenatchee and Yakima Valleys. Temperatures as low as 17 degrees were reported at Cashmere, 20 at Omak, 19 at Yakima, and 23 at Wenatchee.

The Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates has wired its representative to make an immediate investigation and report on the situation at an early date. It is impossible to make any accurate estimate of damage by freezing until some time has elapsed, but as soon as practicable a release will be made, covering the situation.

Dr. Fisher also advises that soft fruits in Yakima were practically cleaned out some time ago, and the cherries that escaped the January cold were rather severely damaged by the recent freezing weather. Peaches in that district apparently were wiped out by low temperatures during the winter. Apricots probably are not greatly damaged, and pears seem to have come through pretty well. DO NOT PUBLISH THIS REPORT.

5a. PALMS SOLD IN LONDON MARKET.

Covent Garden market, in London, apparently handles large quantities of palms for use on Palm Sunday, according to this extract from the London "Daily Telegraph" of a month ago:

Covent Garden has received consignments of palms for church decoration on Palm Sunday, the usual accompaniment of a gorgeous display of spring flowers. The palm is from that wonderfully interesting area of Elche, which the Romans colonised as Ilici, in Alicante. Here, in the South-East of Spain, is an extensive oasis which appears to have been transported from the North of Africa. Buildings and inhabitants belong to past centuries, and a mystery play, or opera, in the cathedral is an annual event performed with religious fervour. The thousands of palms are the source of supply for the numerous religious celebrations throughout Spain, including La Procession del Domingo de Ramos on Palm Sunday at Seville. The palm groves of Elche have a peculiar appearance during the earlier months of the year, the fronds of the male tree being tied in a sheaf for the purpose of bleaching them to the golden hue they have when we see them in the churches.

6a. CORRECT ADDRESS FOR NEW YORK OFFICE.

In last week's Division Letter, the new address for the New York office was given as follows: "Sixth Floor, Steinhardt & Kelly Bldg., 102 Warren Street." We are now advised that, while the firm of Steinhardt & Kelly owns the building in which our new offices are located and have their own offices there, the building is not known as the Steinhardt & Kelly Building. Because of this fact the proper address for the New York office is simply: 102 WARREN STREET.

7a. THE HISTORIC CUCUMBER.

The London "Daily Telegraph" for March 28 carried the following very interesting article on Lea Valley produce, treating especially of the cucumber. It also includes some striking rules for grading and packing fruit:

From the earliest periods the cucumber has been cultivated in the East. When the Israelites complained to Moses in the wilderness, comparing manna with the luxuries of Egypt to the disadvantage of that heaven-sent food, they mentioned the cucumbers to which they had been accustomed in the land of the Pharaohs. From that day to this the cooling cucumber has been popular with the Hebrew race. It has been known in this country from the earliest records of horticulture. It was well known, Gough tells us, in the ^{reign} ~~region~~ of Edward the Third, but, like other things which needed careful culture, it fell out of use until that time when so much was achieved in the way of horticultural progress, the period of the "Bluff King Hal," and, even, then, less attention was devoted to it than to various root crops which thrived in the open, and it was not generally cultivated until about the middle of the seventeenth century.

Commercial Crop 50 Years.

Intensive culture is required, except for the ridge variety, and it is a little over fifty years since the cucumber was taken up seriously on commercial lines in this country, glasshouses used for bedding plants being utilized for a succession of cucumbers, large size being aimed at rather than quality. It was in the "eighties" that the Lea Valley began to be transformed from a land of marshes, flanked by the Essex range of hills, to one of cucumber and tomato culture on a scale which surprised those who embarked early in the business. This extensive area now accounts for about half the total of glasshouses in the United Kingdom. From Ponder's-end out to Cheshunt, and beyond, the Lea flows past acres of glass, and the area is ever increasing on the Middlesex and Hertfordshire side, outposts being now established as far from the river as Crews Hill, but the whole district comes into the Lea Valley organisation, which is maintained for the improvement of supplies and occupies a very important position in our home industries.

Lea Valley cucumbers have just started their season. A good many are coming to market from the South Coast, but Lea Valley produce holds the premier position directly it gets into full swing, prolific production providing many advantages as to grading, &c., and the proximity to the metropolis also helps. When the Lea Valley cucumber and the daffodil arrive on the market the trade marks off "spring is here" on the calendar, and efforts are made to popularise salads. Before the war there was one eye on Germany and the other on the home markets, but, although Germany is open to buy anything and everything in foodstuffs, Holland has such an advantage as regards transport that Germany will be consuming more Dutch than English cucumbers this season. Dutch growers were outdoor and cold-house people before the war, but have taken up production with heated houses wholeheartedly, and can place their produce on rail direct to the German markets.

Supplies and Competition.

This should really benefit our growers of cucumbers and tomatoes-also consumers-as they can devote more attention to our own markets, having less Dutch competition. This must be qualified, however, by the possibility of the German demand collapsing. Then the Dutchmen who have grown cucumbers for German consumption will seek an outlet for their produce, and it is certain they will look across the North Sea to England. So far, the home trade has had a rebuff because of the high price realised for salmon, Scotch having changed hands at Billingsgate at 3s 9d per lb.

Lea Valley tomatoes start in May. Main supplies now are from the Canary Islands. Those arriving from South Africa are disappointing, the trade being in its apprenticeship stage, with much to learn as to packing, &c. They are either too green or too ripe, the happy medium having yet to be discovered. Considerable quantities of cos and cabbage lettuce are arriving from France, but endive is still prohibited under the export decree.

Fruit Grading and Packing.

On Monday the first Australian apples of the season are due by the Demosthenes, which sailed on Feb. 22, and is bringing 10,834 cases for London and Hull. There are also grapes and pears on board for London. The Esperance Bay, due a week later, has 30,929 cases of apples for London. South African consignments include large quantities of pears and grapes, also plums, peaches, apples, and pineapples. Measures have been employed to ensure good displays of Empire fruit, both fresh and dried, at the Wembley Exhibition. In connection with South African fruit, some hints to exporters by Mr. Ralph Bulmer, Chief Government Fruit Inspector, are concise and of interest to our growers at home. They include: "See that your fruit is at the correct state of ripeness before packing; grade correctly as to size and quality. Green peaches will not pass inspection. Do not pack any fruit that you would not like to give to your best friend. Do not fill your boxes with wood-wool. There is no sales for it in England. Your wives, daughters, and sisters are the best packers you can get. Come and see me if you have a complaint. Do not pack sour grapes; colic is uncomfortable." These are a selection from a long list.

There are good supplies of Canadian and American apples, of Spanish, Jaffa, Californian seedless, and Floridan oranges, and West Indian and Floridan grape fruit has a steady sale. Bananas are plentiful and cheap. South African grapes are in splendid condition, and strawberries range from about 15s to 40s per lb. wholesale.

7a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 26:

Page 261 - Special paragraph on Apples in weekly review.

263-- Louisiana Strawberries Delayed, - by R. H. Lamb.

- Movement of South Carolina tomatoes (filler).

- Association Sells Fruit Worth Half Million.

- Federal-State Inspections at Florida Shipping Points (filler).

266 - Cucumbers in Georgia and South Carolina (filler).

- Cantaloupes in Georgia and South Carolina (filler).

267 - Asparagus in Georgia and South Carolina (filler).

- Watarmelon planting in Georgia (filler).

9a. DOMESTIC WOOL SECTION REPORTS PROGRESS DURING APRIL.

The Domestic Wool Section, handling 1918 excess wool profits, reports considerable progress during the month of April. Complete payments were made by five wool dealers, two of whose cases were in the hands of United States District Attorneys. A payment of over \$7,600 also was received from a large central dealer, whose case has been in correspondence and in conferences for three years. Seven dealers were called upon to pay excess profits. Eighteen cases pending against commission merchants, who handled wool in 1918, were closed. Checks aggregating nearly \$10,000 were mailed to wool growers during the month.

One important case against a wool dealer will be reached for argument in court in Chicago on May 13. The case against a wool dealer in Baltimore, which was believed to have been lost to the Government on trial on the facts, is to be reargued this month on certain vital interpretations of the regulations, at the request of the court.

The work of the Domestic Wool Section was thoroughly discussed for two hours on the floor of the House of Representatives last week, but the point of order and the motion to strike out the item were both defeated, indicating the desire of Congress that the work shall be continued to completion.

10a. TEXAS ONION SITUATION IN UPPER COUNTIES.

In a letter of April 24, W. H. Mosier, in charge of the Market News field station at Asherton, Texas, included the following observations:-

"Have had an opportunity to look over some of the onion fields and to see some of the stock being loaded. The onions are of medium size but very good quality, there being very few seed stems, splits and doubles. Dealers and growers tell me the quality is much better than that of last year. Mr. Shirley, the Federal inspector, is on the job. The Inspection Service is very popular, and a majority of the shipments will be Federal-State inspected.

The Texas Onion Growers' Association controls about two-thirds of the tonnage from the Upper Counties, which will be sold through the Federated, organization. Shipments are very light to date, and the market extremely poor. Wire sales for Yellows today will probably be in the neighborhood of \$1.35-1.50 per crate, with cash transactions from 15¢ to 25¢ lower, if any lower. Growers and dealers are very pessimistic as to the ultimate outcome of the deal, which will probably drag on until the first of June."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. CODE PHRASES FOR TERMINAL AND F.O.B. WIRE AUCTIONS (EFFECTIVE MAY 9).

The phrase, "terminal f. o. b. auction," which has been used in our market reports to describe auction sales in terminal markets on an f.o.b. basis (of cars which are just being shipped or are rolling), by linking up buyers in several cities at the same time by means of private wires, has never been entirely satisfactory. Indeed, it was rather contradictory. It has now been decided to describe these as "f.o.b. wire auctions." The phrase, "terminal auctions" will now be used in the reports to designate sales in the terminal markets of cars already on track in these markets, with samples on display at the auction rooms.

On the "GOD-GOS" page of the code, add
GOW F.o.b. wire auctions
GOX Terminal auctions

2b. POTATO SITUATION IN HASTINGS SECTION.

Considerable difference of opinion seemed to exist this season as to the probable yield and production of potatoes in the Hastings section of Florida. As indicated in the following letter of April 21, from F.H. Scruggs, he estimates an output of about 3,000 carloads, based on yield of 30 barrels per acre:

"It seems to me that the crop had as many handicaps last year as it is likely to have this year. The acreage for the State last year was 19,310 and produced 3,495 cars. The three counties in Hastings section produced at least 2,569 cars, or 73.5% of the Florida crop. I do not know the acreage planted in these counties last year, but would say 70% of the State total, or approximately 13,500. At the same ratio of production as last year, there would be approximately 3,500 cars from the three counties. Carrying this a little further: If a 35-bbl. yield (last year's basis) would produce 3,500 cars on this season's acreage, then a 30-bbl. yield ought to produce 3,000 cars this year.

"This is a wild place, - wild cats, alligators, rattlesnakes, bear, and almost anything else wild in the animal line that you can think of. Next Sunday I may go out in these wilds with some huntsmen. If the bulletin doesn't come out next Monday, you know whom to notify, - nearest relative."

Since Mr. Scruggs' letter was written, the Division of Crop and Live-stock Estimates issued a report under date of April 26. This shows last year's acreage in the Hastings district as 14,960 acres, compared with 18,430 this season. Last year's yield is given as 96 bushels per acre, against 90 indicated this year. The 1923 production of 1,436,000 bushels compares with forecast of 1,659,000 bushels this season.

3b. RADIO REPORTS IN KANSAS CITY.

In addition to marked portions of the Weekly Review, now being broadcast by the Kansas City "Star" from Station WDAF, R. S. Lombard advises that he recently completed arrangements with the Sweeney Automotive and Electric Company for broadcasting the Kansas City fruit and vegetable reports each day, at either 10:30 or 11:30 A.M. This radio report includes potato, apple, onion, cabbage and strawberry markets, together with arrivals, diversions, and cars on track.

4b. CALIFORNIA ONIONS AND QUARANTINE SITUATION.

More of the complications resulting from quarantines against the foot and mouth disease in California are brought out by the following letter of April 22, from Mr. Harris, of the Los Angeles office:-

"It seems that the Coachella onion deal has been delayed about a week by cold weather, so that shipments are expected to begin about the first of next week. Carlots are moving now from the Imperial Valley but the volume from that section will be small.

"The shippers are badly scared on account of the quarantines imposed by the western States, due to the foot and mouth disease here. Since Texas is so late this year, it looks like the Coachella shippers are going to need the western markets badly, as it will be hard to ship east against the peak of shipments from Texas. Arizona and Washington have absolute quarantines against all fruit and vegetable shipments from California, and the other western States require certifications or fumigation, or both.

"The Governor has appointed committees to visit the near-by States and outline to the quarantine officials the methods that are used in handling outbreaks of the disease. I have suggested to members of these committees that the Imperial and Coachella Valleys are remote from the infected areas, are separated from the rest of the State by deserts and mountain ranges, and are accessible by only two roads, both of which are guarded and protected by disinfecting stations. I also suggested that they prepare maps, as part of their arguments, that will bring out these features, and they feel that they are going to be able to get the quarantine restrictions modified for shipments from these two valleys at least. It is doubtful if Arizona will modify her restrictions, but it is probable that these committees will be able to open up most of the western markets."

5b. DISTRIBUTION OF GEORGIA PEACHES.

Last week J. L. Benton, President of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, visited the Washington office, and discussed plans for the distribution of the Georgia peach crop. He outlined the situation as follows: The Exchange, which now controls about 70-75% of the crop, has appointed the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers and the Joseph Gentile Company as sales agents. Representatives of the Standard Growers' Exchange (the other major factor in the deal) have signified willingness to cooperate with the Georgia Peach Growers in any reasonable scheme to assist in marketing and distributing the crop. These two organizations will handle about 90% of all the peaches in the State, and arrangements of our Bureau are being made on the assumption that they will agree on some general distribution plan, the details of which are yet to be worked out. It is expected, however, that our local representative, V. D. Callanan, will sit in with the various factors at a daily meeting, at which the intended destinations of each day's shipments will be posted and distribution agreed upon, as has been done for many seasons in the Imperial Valley cantaloupe deal.

E. W. STILLWELL

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	May 10 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Apr. 1	May 10
HASTINGS, FLA. Byrd Bldg.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 14	May 20
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS** Schuman Bldg.	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 21	May 20
CHARLESTON, S. C.**	858	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	May 1 May 20	May 24 June 14
MOBILE, ALA.**	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 15 May 15	May 31 June 25 June 25

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

CHADBOURN, N. C.**	805	V. D. Callanan	Berries	May 7	May 24
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	R. L. Sutton	Berries	May 6	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 12	May 31
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	Unassigned	Berries	May 15	May 31
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	Unassigned	Cabbage Tomatoes	May 15 June 1	June 10 June 30
MONETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 19	June 14
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 26	July 12

The following station closed on date indicated:

ORLANDO, FLA.** Angebilt Hotel	920	Robert Bier, vice J. D. Evers	Citrus fruit	Jan. 16	<u>Closed</u> Apr. 30
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* Reports discontinued.

** State Dept. cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for in-
G. A. DeHaven) spection work.

G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office.
C. E. Schultz, c/o Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. DESTROYING FIELD COPIES OF OLD CERTIFICATES.

All field copies of certificates more than two years old may be destroyed. Inasmuch as these are connected with business of private firms, the Inspector should see that such copies are destroyed by burning and should not allow them to go into waste-paper baskets with other waste material.

2c. AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS.

In order to provide for conditions which necessitate issuing several certificates on parts of a lot which has been inspected as a whole, the following amendments to the Rules and Regulations have been promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture:-

Regulation 7, Section 1: For a part of a lot previously inspected and certified, a certificate may be issued without further inspection. The certificate shall bear the date of its issuance and shall state that it is for a part of a lot inspected on a specified date and certified to be of the quality and condition shown but that such part was not subsequently inspected and is not certified as being necessarily of the same average quality and condition as the entire lot.

Regulation 9, by addition of the following, which shall be Paragraph 5:

The fee for a certificate issued without further inspection on part of a lot which has been inspected and certified as a whole, as provided for under Regulation 7, Section 1, shall be the same as the fee for not to exceed three copies of a certificate as provided under Paragraph 4 of this regulation.

Paragraph 5 of Regulation 9 is renumbered 6.

It is not thought likely that there will be any wide use for these provisions, and it is questionable whether a certificate issued on part of a lot under the provision of these amendments would have much weight in court. It might, however, have a considerable trade value and, if such certificates are requested, they may be issued as provided. Since cases of this kind are rather peculiar in their nature, all Inspectors are requested to notify the Washington office before such certificates are sent out.

3c. TENTATIVE U.S. GRADES FOR PINEAPPLES.

With this Division Letter, each Inspector is being sent a copy of the tentative grades for pineapples. These will be used as a basis for shipping-point inspection this season on East Coast of Florida.

If any Inspector desires to familiarize himself with the method of growing pineapples, he can request from the Office of Publications, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, a copy of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1237, "Pineapple Culture in Florida." This bulletin is fully illustrated.

4c. MORE THAN 100,000 INSPECTIONS AT SHIPPING POINTS.

From the beginning of the fiscal year until the end of March, about 98,975 inspections of fruit and vegetables were made at shipping points in 24 States, with which the Division of Fruits and Vegetables, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, has had cooperative agreements for this work. In addition, about 2,000 inspections were made in four other States. The detailed report follows:

Cooperative Inspections at Shipping Points, July 1, 1923 to Mar. 31, 1924.

California.....	41,217	New York.....	1,362
Colorado.....	9,729	North Carolina.....	166
Delaware.....	50	Ohio.....	169
Florida.....	5,223	Oregon.....	118
Georgia.....	330*	Pennsylvania.....	272
Idaho.....	16,923	South Dakota.....	368
Illinois.....	112	Texas.....	2,437
Massachusetts.....	6	Utah.....	1,584
Montana.....	305	Virginia.....	130
Nebraska.....	4,279	Washington.....	11,487
Nevada.....	34	West Virginia.....	227
New Jersey.....	719	Wisconsin.....	1,728
		Total	98,975

* Including some inspections prior to July 1.

The inspections indicated below were made at shipping points as straight Federal inspections, the respective States not being in position to enter into cooperative agreements with the Federal Department for this purpose:

Arizona.....	300	Kansas.....	855
Indiana.....	551	Missouri.....	204
		Total	1,910

This makes a grand total of 100,885 inspections handled in 28 States.

5c. BERMUDA ONION INSPECTIONS IN COACHELLA VALLEY.

Bermuda onion inspection work in the Coachella Valley of California started April 20, and practically all the crop, consisting of about 900 cars, will be inspected by the service this year. The revised Bermuda onion grades are being used as a basis of inspection. A temporary branch office has been established at Coachella, and H. F. Larson, Supervising Inspector, has been stationed there to be in direct charge of this work, with a force of eight inspectors. Mr. Larson's permanent head-quarters are in Los Angeles.

6c. PENNSYLVANIA GRADE BOOKLET.

With last week's Division Letter, each Inspector was sent a copy of the Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture's General Bulletin No. 381, entitled: "Standard Grades for Apples, Potatoes and Wheat." This was enclosed after the D. L. had been mimeographed, and therefore was not mentioned in last Letter.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman was at Minneapolis on Thursday, and expected to be at Madison, Wis., today. He will stop at the Chicago office Saturday and be back in Washington by Sunday night, May 4.

Mr. Samson is now in Denver, conferring with authorities there regarding standardization work. He probably will spend about a week visiting various points in Colorado, before returning to Washington.

Thorland R. Hall, of the State of Iowa, has been appointed an Assistant Marketing Specialist (F&V), and is expected to report in Chicago within the next few days, where he will take training in inspection work. For the past year, Mr. Hall has been connected with the Experiment Station at Prosser, Wash., as an Assistant Extension Professor of Horticulture. From 1911 to 1920, Mr. Hall gained experience in orchard operations by assisting with picking and packing various deciduous fruits, especially during summer vacations. During the latter part of 1920, he was student instructor in apple packing at Oregon Agricultural College. Mr. Hall received his master's degree from that College in 1922, and remained there as an instructor until June, 1923.

C. L. Brown left Washington on Wednesday night for New York City. He will be in temporary charge of the New York Market News office after the departure of O. D. Miller, about May 12. It should be remembered also that H. S. Stiles is acting in charge of the Boston office of the News Service.

On the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service, it will be noticed that opening of most of the strawberry stations has been further delayed because of lateness of the season.

A special 10 A.M. mimeographed sheet is being distributed by . . . F. H. Scruggs at Hastings, Fla., showing the New York City arrivals of Florida potatoes and market prior to 7 A. M.; the shipping-point information for the previous day, and destinations and diversions.

V. D. Callanan will not leave the Washington office until Sunday or Monday, for Chadbourn, N. C. He has been working during the past week on a tabulation of destinations of Georgia peaches, preparatory to the opening of the Fort Valley field station, where it is expected that this table will be of special value in shaping the distribution of the peach crop.

The early part of this week, H. J. Clay made a brief visit to Boston, where he conferred with honey and peanut firms regarding the market reports on these products.

R. L. Sutton, who has been assisting R. H. Lamb, at the Hammond, La., field station, will leave by Sunday for Judsonia, Ark., where he will issue market reports on strawberries.

The market news work in Los Angeles is being handled temporarily by George E. Prince, while H. A. Harris is on two week's leave.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued)

J. W. Park can be reached through the Forest Service office at Albuquerque, New Mexico, during the next six or eight weeks. Congress recently granted \$1,000,000 to be used in the relief of drought-stricken areas of New Mexico, and Mr. Park has gone to Albuquerque, with C. W. Warburton, Director of Extension Work, to assist in the administration of this fund. It will be remembered that Mr. Park was engaged in Seed Grain Loan work in the Northwest for more than a year. Before returning from this present assignment, it is expected that he will visit truck-crop areas in the West, to obtain data for the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates.

Neal D. Sanborn, of the Denver office, has gone to Kansas City, and will be in temporary charge of inspection work there, while O. N. Harsha goes to the White County district to handle shipping-point inspections of strawberries. Mr. Harsha's headquarters probably will be at Judsonia, Ark.

R. C. Butner has gone from Chicago to the strawberry sections of Tennessee and Arkansas, where he will assist Mr. Gregory, in Tennessee, and Mr. Harsha, in Arkansas, to start the inspection work on berries in those respective districts. Mr. Butner will be away from Chicago at least two weeks.

Leaving Pittsburgh last Monday, J. A. Marks proceeded to Chattanooga, Tenn., by automobile, where he will supervise inspection work on strawberries. He was accompanied by Harry Duncan, formerly of the New York State inspection staff, who will serve as one of the local inspectors in eastern Tennessee.

Louis Marks, a prominent distributor of lettuce from Wayne County, New York (just east of Rochester), was in Washington to confer with Mr. Robb regarding the possibility of shipping-point inspection of next season's crop.

Miss Mignon E. Langill, of the Minneapolis Market News office, resigned April 30, and has been succeeded by Miss Esther S. Erickson.

The Easter issue of the "Sunday News," - New York City, - had among its front-page pictures an interesting photograph of Mrs. F. E. Kast (formerly Miss Charlotte Unterweiser), of the Market News staff in that city. It shows Mrs. Kast standing between two large heads of cabbage, with an arm stretched around each of the cabbages, and the inscription reads: "Larger than the head of Mrs. 'Effie' Kast are these great 17-pound cabbages, received by Department of Agriculture here yesterday from Florida." It seems that the cabbages were borrowed from a produce dealer whose office is next to ours. The same photograph appeared in the Pittsburgh "Post" on April 24.

J. E. M. Gantt, mimeograph operator in Washington, has gone on two weeks' leave, during which time he will have an operation for the removal of his tonsils. Frank O'Brien will handle the mimeographing work during Mr. Gantt's absence.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued)

The following changes of location have been made by the cooperative Inspectors in California:- H. W. Peterson, until recently stationed at El Centro, is now in the Los Angeles office, 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg. A. D. Atterbury, who also was at El Centro, can now be reached through the State Dept. of Agriculture, at Sacramento. F. C. Cadwallader, of the State staff, is at present in Los Angeles.

The article on Page 217 of this D. L., entitled: "Bermuda Onion Inspections in Coachella Valley," was written by G. C. Henny, of Mr. Allewelt's office, in Sacramento. Mr. Henny expects to be able to submit frequent items regarding the inspection service in California, for the information of our readers.

Daylight saving time is now in effect in the following cities on the Bureau's leased wire system:- Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Columbus, Cincinnati and Chicago. This enables market reports from those cities to reach Washington an hour earlier than usual.

The home address of H. H. Henderson, Inspector in Norfolk, Va., has been changed to 1261 Bay View Boulevard. Mr. Henderson is now on 10 days' leave.

(Continued from Page 217)

7c. SEED STEMS IN BERMUDA ONIONS.

Some question has been raised as to the interpretation of the new definition of seed stems in Bermuda onions. Careful examination of samples submitted by Mr. Shirley and Mr. Longino indicates that all large seed stems are either woody at time of harvest or become so during transit. Such seed stems are excluded from U. S. Grade No. 1. Small seed stems are generally soft and are not noticeable. Cross sections of onions which have small seed stems show that the cavity is small and the onions are, therefore, not "damaged" either in appearance or in quality.

In judging seed stems in receiving markets, therefore, size will be the best indication as to whether or not the individual onions should be counted against the grade. It should be remembered, however, that any seed stem which is hard and plainly visible, regardless of size, must be thrown out of the grade.

F.G.R.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 19

May 9, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. LATER REPORTS ON THE WASHINGTON FREEZE.

G. S. Ray, Agricultural Statistician for the State of Washington, furnished the following information under date of May 2:

Fruit crops in Washington suffered considerable injury from freezing during the latter half of April but it is too early to predict the exact extent of the damage. The U. S. Weather Bureau states that "temperatures ranging from 14° to 26° were common on the 24th and 25th" in eastern Washington.

In the Wenatchee district, the freezing occurred in spots and, while some areas were severely injured, others escaped with very little damage. The Delicious apples seemed to have suffered more than any other variety. Damage to apples in Chelan and Douglas Counties is probably not over 25 per cent; no report from Okanogan County is available at this time.

In the Yakima Valley the damage was quite widespread, being most serious in the lower part of the Valley. However, a fair-sized crop is expected, - possibly two-thirds the size of the 1923 crop.

The Walla Walla district suffered very serious injury and the District Horticultural Inspector's preliminary estimate is for 100 cars of apples, compared with about 1,200 cars last year.

Little frost damage is reported in the Spokane apple district.

Around White Salmon and Underwood, the Delicious apples show some injury but later varieties indicate a good set.

2a. MARKETING OF NORTHWESTERN APPLES.

At a meeting held at Yakima, Wash., April 12, steps were taken for the formation of the Northwestern Fruit Growers' Commission, as a selling agency for the associations handling apples. Five associations, handling about 8,000 carloads a year, through their representatives, agreed to assist in the formation of the Commission, as did also a sixth association now being formed. According to reports obtained by the Division of Agricultural Cooperation, an organization committee was elected and a tentative form of organization was drawn up. It is proposed to incorporate as a capital stock, non-profit company under the laws of the State of Washington. The stock will be issued in trust to the directors representing the various associations which join the new organizations. It is expected that 10,000 carloads of apples will be pledged to the Commission.

The organizations which are taking an active part in launching the new Commission are: the Yakima Fruit Growers' Association, Yakima; the Wenatchee District Cooperative Association, Wenatchee; the Hood River Apple Growers' Association, Hood River, Ore.; the Spokane Valley Growers' Union, Opportunity, Wash.; the Inland Empire Cooperative Association, Walla Walla; and the Selah Cooperative Growers, Selah, Wash., now being formed.

3a. CALIFORNIA RHUBARB.

The following interesting article was submitted by C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office:

The rhubarb deal in Alameda County, California, is fast drawing to a close, with one of the biggest seasons in its history. About 240 straight carloads of rhubarb had gone to eastern markets by the end of April, and approximately 43,000 boxes were shipped in less than carlots and mixed cars to cities on the Pacific Coast. This brings total commercial production to 325 carloads. Last year only 144 carloads of rhubarb were shipped to the East. This season, however, has not been so profitable as last, because of increased production and lack of rainfall, which retarded the growth and made less than 10% fancy packs.

Approximately 1,000 acres are planted to rhubarb in Alameda County, with San Leandro and San Lorenzo the centers of production. There is also a small acreage around Manteca and San Pablo, but this is sold locally in San Francisco and Oakland. The first district competing with Alameda County is Walla Walla, Washington, but most of the local crop is marketed before shipments from Walla Walla begin.

Being a perennial plant, rhubarb will bear to good advantage until it is seven to ten years of age. When the shoots first start coming through the soil, the rows are hilled up, almost covering the plants. Shortly after seeding begins, cutting is stopped, as this has a tendency to retard growth during the next season. The hills are then plowed away and the stalks soon dry out and die.

Most of the rhubarb in this section is marketed through the Central California Rhubarb Association, comprised mainly of Portuguese growers. This Association, which was organized under direction of representatives of the California Department of Agriculture, is said to be one of the strongest organizations of farmers in existence, including more than 95% of the rhubarb growers.

Crop Carefully Handled.

All packing is done by growers. The rhubarb is dipped several times in tanks of water to remove dust and dirt. While in the tanks, it is sorted into three grades: fancy, extra choice, and choice. It is then packed into boxes similar in size to apple boxes, holding approximately 40 pounds net. The cost of picking and packing ranges between 30¢ and 40¢ per box, according to reports from the Association. The packed rhubarb is hauled to loading stations, where it is placed in refrigerated cars holding from 504 to 520 boxes.

Distribution of this vegetable on the Pacific Coast is handled by one San Francisco jobber, who receives 10% commission on all sales. The price each day is set by the Association, and the jobber is not permitted to sell for less. If he can obtain more than this price, he is welcome to the extra profit. Supplies destined to eastern markets are handled by the California Vegetable Union on consignment, but the Association does not attempt to regulate prices on these shipments. The grower cannot pull his crop or sell independently, unless he is so instructed by the Manager of the Association.

This has a tendency to keep the supplies from flooding any certain market. Late last season, the growers were released from their contracts before settlement had been made for all eastern shipments. This tended to break the market, and no member will be released this year until the last car is disposed of.

Net returns from rhubarb sold locally and in eastern markets are averaged and pro-rated on the basis of the number of boxes shipped by each grower. It is still too early to obtain final figures, but growers feel that the returns will be less than last season's average of \$1.85 per box, after all freight and selling charges were deducted.

4a. TEXAS HONEY BALL MELONS.

The report below was received from W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office:

Texas Honey Ball melons, which have been developed and propagated in Tarrant County, Texas, during the past two years, are being grown in the section around Fort Worth for commercial shipment in 1924. The acreage in Tarrant County is placed at 1,800, Wise County 200, Denton County 400, Parker County 100, or a total of 2,500 acres, the production from which will be handled by the Texas Honey Ball Association. In 1923 only 65 acres were planted, largely for experimental purposes, 35 acres for the market and the balance for seed and advertising. All shipments were handled by express, and the average price received was \$1.25 f.o.b. shipping point per flat crate (Jumbo 5½"x16½"x22½") of 12 to 15 melons.

The melon is a cross between the Texas Cannon Ball cantaloupe and the California Honey Dew melon, is almost perfectly round in shape and averages about 5 inches in diameter. Its meat is similar in texture to that of the Honey Dew, one and a half inches thick, and is covered by a smooth, thin rind, fairly well netted. Its chief merit lies in its shipping qualities and its flavor, experiments having shown that shipments can be made without refrigeration to any section of the United States requiring ten days to two weeks' time. Another point in its favor is that it is not susceptible to damage from bruises caused by ordinary handling.

On May 1 all of the 2,500 acres had been planted and a very satisfactory stand was reported. The seeds are planted in checkered rows (6 by 6 or 6 by 8 feet), one or two plants being left in a hill. If seasonal conditions are favorable, it is expected that two acres will produce a carload, or that the total crop will be 1,200 to 1,300 cars, which will begin to move July 10 or 15. The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce is actively sponsoring the propagation of this commodity, also its distribution.

5a. SPECIAL ONION STATISTICS.

The April 30 issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets," a mimeographed paper issued by this Bureau, contains a lot of very valuable data on onions. At least 11 pages are devoted to statistical tables on this product. Detailed textual reports are given for Spain and Egypt. Acreage and production figures are presented for the last five years for each of the important producing countries in North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, etc. Prices prevailing in Spain and Egypt also are shown. Onion exports from the United States are given by months and by countries, from 1920 to 1923 inclusive, and for this fiscal year up to April 1. Both export and import statistics for the United States are included for the 60 years, 1864 to 1923.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. MORE ABOUT COACHELLA VALLEY ONIONS.

H. A. Harris gives the following first-hand information regarding conditions in the Coachella Valley of California. His letter was written from Los Angeles on April 30:

"I went to Coachella and near-by points last Friday and Saturday, and believe that the trip was well worth while. I made arrangements with the 'Coachella Valley Submarine' at Coachella and the 'Date Palm' at Indio to publish a weekly summary of the onion markets, that will be prepared in this office Tuesday for their Wednesday afternoon press date. I also arranged with a drug store at Coachella and the leading hotel to post the daily market report.

"The onion crop is looking fine and, while a few cars went out last week, the movement will not be heavy for a week or ten days. Many of the growers are holding back their crop all they can, on account of the present market conditions. The growers seem to be taking an increased interest in grading and inspection, and the State Inspectors were busy in the fields teaching the growers the application of the revised grades and the proper maturity for commercial cutting."

A more complete article on Coachella onions, written by Mr. Harris, will appear in an early issue of "Crops and Markets."

2b. INTERESTING DATA ON LOUISIANA BERRIES.

R. H. Lamb, in a letter of April 28, gives the following interesting information regarding strawberries in the Hammond section of Louisiana:-

"Everything is progressing nicely-, so well, in fact, that there has been no occasion to write you before. There were 87 cars out of the district Saturday, and indications today are that we shall reach the peak of the movement. Ever since the opening of the season the berries have been of exceptionally good quality,- better, I am assured by some of the buyers that have followed this deal for several years, than has been the case during the past few years. However, for the last few days there has been at certain of the loading points some softness of the fruit, that may injure its carrying quality on long hauls.

"The season thus far has been a very successful one for the growers, but the contrary is the case with respect to buyers. There have been two records established this season, one for the highest-priced car of berries ever sold in the United States and the other for the highest price ever paid at this point for a 24-pint crate of berries. The first full car shipped out of the district, on March 28, was sold at \$7.47 1/2 per crate, and a car shipped April 14 cost \$5745.90, due principally to heavy loading, the car containing 895 24-pint ventilated crates."

3b. SPECIAL CROP NOTES.

A special mimeographed sheet, showing truck crop conditions in North Carolina and Virginia, has been mailed to all Market News men and to most of the Inspectors. This was accompanied by extracts from a report on Northwestern fruit crops by the Agricultural Statistician for the State of Washington.

4b. ENLARGED RADIO PROGRAM IN CHICAGO.

The following letter of May 5, from W. H. Hall, Chicago, shows the increasing importance of radio reports in that city.

"Early last week Mr. Marquis completed arrangements with Sears, Roebuck Co., whereby they will broadcast our market reports from their new station, WLS. This is said to be one of the most powerful stations in operation, and its work will be devoted largely to that of agriculture. The material which we will furnish them makes up quite a large program, including noon market reports on live stock, fruits and vegetables, and dairy products. Each evening (except Sundays and Mondays) at 8 o'clock, they broadcast our general market review, which embraces the projects mentioned above. On Tuesdays the fruit and vegetable market review is broadcast, on Wednesdays the wool review, on Thursdays the live stock review, on Fridays the dairy products review, and on Saturdays the grain, hay and feed reviews. No material is broadcast on Monday nights, as this is 'Silent Night.'

"Through my being in charge of the radio work in Chicago, this new program has been assigned to my project, and we believe that our radio program is now the most extensive of any of the various branch offices. It comprises an almost continuous program at the Great Lakes Station from 8:30 A.M. until 6:30 P.M.; a three-period program at station KYW, consisting of about 2,000 words; and the new Sears, Roebuck Company (WLS) program, which varies from 1,000 to 3,000 words daily.

"Our first reports were broadcast last Thursday and the program is now running smoothly. Mr. Bill, who is in charge of the station, kindly asked me to make a talk at their studio last Friday. While I did not feel any too comfortable standing before the microphone, with some two dozen artists looking on and waiting their turn, still I did my best to explain the Market News Service and the program we are to furnish to this station, and trust that at least some of the farmers were courteous enough not to tune out before I finished. Perhaps Mr. Bill thinks I would fit better at their Saturday night barn-dances, which is one of their regular broadcast features, as he has extended me an invitation. But I feel that I might also be somewhat of a failure there, for it is noted that their fiddler plays a fiddle with four strings, whereas back home old Sid Wiggins never played on more than three strings and sometimes, two; so I am sure that a four-string fiddle would be too artistic for me."

5b. PREPARATION OF MAIL REPORTS.

In preparing the daily mail reports in market stations, names of products are often crossed out and other product-names substituted, with conditions and prices opposite. This is a satisfactory method when the names crossed out need not be used later on the same sheet, but in many instances such a product has to be typed in at the bottom, with prices and description. In one case, carrots had been written in the space for cauliflower, and cranberries crossed out to make room for cauliflower farther down the page. Mail reports are more easily handled in Washington, when a certain form is followed every day, with each product always listed in the same place on the page.

NORTH CAROLINA has around 3,500 acres of cucumbers, a 25% increase over last year. Movement is expected to start about June 5 or 10.

6b. GEORGIA ASPARAGUS.

Valuable data on Georgia asparagus were included in a letter of May 6 from T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office:

"On Saturday, May 3rd, after making an inspection at Macon, Mr. Turner, Horticultural Agent for the Central of Georgia Railway, was kind enough to take me out to the asparagus sections at Fort Valley and Marshallville.

"The principal variety grown is the Palmetto. A few growers have the Mary Washington variety, which is about the same type, - so much so that some are unable to distinguish the two. The soil must be light sand at least 18 inches deep, not necessarily clay sub-soil but this seems best. The stock is cut 2 to 3 inches below the surface of the ground; then placed in field crates holding approximately one bushel, and hauled to a community packing house at Marshallville. This packing house is being run by Mr. Richard, who contracted with the growers for all of their output, field run, at 8¢ per pound up to and including May 3rd.

"Practically all labor used is negro, both men and women. The stock is graded from the field crates into Colossal, Fancy, and Choice; then bunched and tied. After the stock is bunched, the crowns are cut evenly. Immediately after being bunched, it is placed in large shallow vats, containing about two inches of cool water. This is done to keep the asparagus from wilting. Before packing, the crates are lined at the bottom with wet moss; most crates contain one dozen bunches, although with the strings they were putting three dozen to a crate.

Mr. Richard, informed me that they were making quite a few f.o.b. sales, in fact, had not rolled anything unsold for several days. These f.o.b. sales are being made mostly at \$5-\$5.50 on Colossals, \$4-\$4.50 on Fancy, and around \$3 for Choice.

"In talking with several of the growers of that section, they praised our Market News Service very highly. A few of them told me that our report reached them before they were able to get telegraphic reports on sales made in the eastern markets. They are very much enthused, and I think the performance will have to be repeated each year.

"Considerable new acreage was put out this year and the prospects now are for an increased bearing acreage each year for the next three years. At the end of that time, bearing acreage will be almost double that at present.

"The asparagus deal will last about two weeks longer. I would recommend that we continue issuing the bulletin up to and including May 17th, after which time, I feel sure, the deal will be practically over."

7b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

Two weeks ago, distribution was made of the summary of the SOUTH CAROLINA POTATO DEAL, SEASON 1923, written by John D. Snow. One of the unique features of this report is the use made of the Weekly Market Review, prepared in the Washington office. Each week's Review, of course, contains paragraphs on both new and old potatoes. Mr. Snow has inserted these paragraphs (verbatim) in his summary, under appropriate headings, and thereby has given a review of the entire potato situation during the period that the Charleston, S.C., field stations was in operation.

8b. BRIEF SEASONAL REVIEWS.

At the close of the Texas spinach season, J. Austen Hunter, of the Austin office, issued a two-page statistical summary of the deal, showing shipments of spinach, destinations of Texas stock, and prices in four leading markets.

Just before leaving Orlando, Fla., J. D. Evers published a special sheet, showing in the form of graphs the carlot shipments of oranges and grapefruit, respectively, for each month of the present season, compared with each month last season.

9b. NEW FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

The latest summary to be distributed is the KEARNEY, NEBRASKA, WHITE POTATO DEAL, SEASON 1923, by W. H. Mosier. Copies can be obtained from the Washington office, if more are needed.

10b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 3.

Page 277 - Special paragraph on Tomatoes in weekly review.

- 279 - California Situation Affects Idaho Potatoes, - by G. E. Prince.
- Texas Onions of Superior Quality, - by W. H. Mosier.
- Mexican Tomatoes for American Markets.

288 - Australian Apple Exports.

- Exports for the period July 1 to March 31, 1922-23 and 1923-24.
of fresh and dried apples; prunes, apricots and raisins.

11b. APRIL SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

In addition to the usual crop information and other statistics, attention is called to the following material on fruits and vegetables in the April Supplement to "Crops and Markets"-

Page 115 - Cantaloupe plantings in Imperial Valley. (filler)

- Effects of frost on Arkansas peaches and berries. (filler)

119 - Marketable Stocks of Potatoes on March 1.

130 - Cold Storage Report for April 1.

133 - Summary of Inspection Work during March.

- Carlot Shipments of Citrus Fruits during March.

134 - Carlot Shipments by States, during March, etc.

135 - Florida Cabbage in New York City (with chart).

- New York Receives Many Fruits and Vegetables (based
on New York's summary of unloads).

136 - Review of the Old Cabbage Season, with tables.

- Florida Cabbage in Chicago (with chart).

- Weather conditions affecting Florida melons. (filler)

140 - Alabama cabbage situation. (filler)

143 - Florida tomato situation. (filler)

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions*	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	May 15 Nov. 15* Jan. 30*
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	R. H. Lamb G. D. Clark	Berries	Apr. 1	May 15
HASTINGS, FLA. Byrd Bldg.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 14	May 20
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10
ASHERTON, TEXAS** Schuman Bldg.	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 21	May 20
CHARLESTON, S. C.** Chamber of Commerce	858	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	May 1 May 20	May 24 June 14
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 15 May 15	May 31 June 25 June 25
RALEIGH, N. C.** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	V. D. Callanan	Berries	May 6	May 24
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	R. L. Sutton	Berries	May 6	May 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 12	May 31
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	G. D. Clark	Berries	May 15	May 31
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 2	June 30
MONETT, MO.	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 19	June 14
BRANLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 26	July 12
FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	May 23	July 15
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS.	811	Unassigned	Tomatoes	June 2	June 30
OCALA, FLA.	832	F. H. Scruggs	W-melons	June 2	June 28

* Reports discontinued.

**State Dept. cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for in-
G. A. DeHaven) spection work.

G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office.
C. E. Schultz in San Francisco office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. IS YOUR LIST OF LATEST FEDERAL GRADES COMPLETE?

Each Inspector should check his file of Federal grades against those published in the International Apple Shippers Handbook, which is complete with the exception of the following grades:

String Beans, Wax or Green.

Bunched Beets.

Cantaloupes.

Bunched Carrots.

Citrus Fruits.

Bermuda Onions (revised 3/17/24)

Peaches (revised May 5, 1924)

Farmers' Stock Peanuts.

Shelled White Spanish Peanuts.

Pears.

Sweet Peppers.

Pineapples.

Fresh Prunes.

Cannery Tomatoes.

Bunched Turnips.

Watermelons.

Revised Peach Grades are being sent with this issue of the Division Letter. Since some offices apparently did not receive the Lettuce Grades, revised September 25, copies of these also are being sent to all offices. If you find your list of grades incomplete, advise this office, so that any which are lacking in your files may be supplied.

2c. DESTROYING OLD CERTIFICATES.

The permission to destroy certificate copies more than two years old includes the destruction of applications, Inspector's notes, and any other papers which may be attached to the office carbons of the certificates.

It is not intended, however, that such file material be destroyed unless there is an actual shortage of space in your files. The instructions in the Division Letter of May 2, Par. 1c, gave permission to destroy such material but did not require it to be done. The question of space should be the deciding factor.

3c. DEPARTMENT NAME ON AUTOMOBILES.

Mr. Sherman reports difficulties experienced by some Inspectors with local police authorities because the automobiles used by the Service do not bear the name of the Department on the side of the car. All cars belonging to the Inspection Service should have lettered on both sides the following:

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

This should be done at once in order to avoid difficulties with local authorities. See 124 Administrative Handbook. It is not necessary now to add the Bureau number of the car.

4c. NEW BULLETIN ON WATERMELONS.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1394, entitled "Watermelons," is a new publication on this subject. In addition to the growing of this product, the bulletin treats to some extent of the harvesting and marketing of watermelons. Copies can be obtained on request to the Office of Publications, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

5c. STRAWBERRY INSPECTIONS IN EAST TENNESSEE.

Writing from Chattanooga on May 3, J. A. Marks advised as follows:

"I believe that the berry movement will not start before the 10th, and there will likely not be any heavy movement before the 15th. In the meantime, we are planning to hold a series of meetings and grading demonstrations at half a dozen of the principal loading points, to familiarize the farmers with requirements of U.S. grades and encourage them to properly grade and pack their berries. From the information I had here yesterday, I doubt whether we will inspect over 150 or 200 cars. At present the outlook is for good-quality stock."

6c. LEATHER ROT OF STRAWBERRIES.

As the last page in this D. L., is a special article written by Dr. D. H. Rose on Leather Rot of Strawberries. It is suggested that this (last) sheet be detached by Inspectors and be bound in the strawberry section of the Handbook, for convenient reference. Note particularly Dr. Rose's request in the closing lines of the article.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Minnesota has signed a cooperative agreement for shipping-point inspection work during the coming season. This is one of the important results of Mr. Sherman's recent trip through the Middle West. In Oklahoma, Mr. Sherman left a written agreement for the consideration of the State Marketing Commission. No decision has yet been reached by that body regarding this proposition of inspections at shipping points.

Earl D. Mallison, of Michigan, has been appointed as Junior Marketing Specialist (F&V), and will report in Washington about June 2 for a period of training in Market News work. Mr. Mallison received his B.S. degree from Michigan Agricultural College in 1923, having specialized in Horticulture. Prior to his college course and during summer vacations, he had quite a lot of experience in mechanical lines, and at one time was in the employ of the Chicago, Duluth and Georgian Bay Transit Company. At present, Mr. Mallison is employed by the Merchants Despatch, Rochester, N.Y., as car inspector.

O. D. Miller, whose resignation was announced in the D. L. for March 28, expected to complete his duties in the New York office on May 12. Mr. Miller has been in the Market News work since April, 1920, and during most of this time has handled field deals in the Middle West and far West. He has substituted at various periods in market stations, and since last June has been in charge of the market reporting work in New York City. For a short while, he did investigational work under Mr. Samson's direction. Mr. Miller has given high-class service in all of his assignments, and has shown special aptitude in the writing of comprehensive summaries of field deals. He is co-author of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1317, "Marketing Main-Crop Potatoes." While his departure is regretted, we wish Mr. Miller success in his new position.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

In a recent letter, T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, advised that last week's tornado in the Fort Valley and Macon sections of Georgia had done material damage to only one orchard. Prospects are good for the heaviest crop of peaches ever produced in Georgia.

In the list of field stations, it will be noticed that Raleigh, instead of Chadbourn, North Carolina was selected as the best place for the operation of a news service on strawberries in that territory. Mr. Callanan is located in Room 312 New Agricultural Building, Raleigh. The usual f.o.b. reports are obtained from Chadbourn. It has been decided not to issue cabbage reports at Crystal Springs, Miss., and the service on tomatoes in that State will not begin until about June 2.

The Laredo field station on onions will close this Saturday, May 10, and Mr. Prugh will then proceed to Monett, Mo., to issue strawberry reports. He will stop a day en route at the Judsonia, Ark., field station.

F. M. Patton was at New York yesterday, attending a meeting of the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of the Regional Advisory Board, cooperating with the American Railway Association and individual railroads handling produce in that district. This committee is comprised of 30 or more members, most of whom are leading produce dealers in the New York territory. Mr. Patton expected also to look into the matter of boat reports of shipments on the Hudson River, possibly going to Saugerties, N. Y. for this purpose.

Leaving Chicago on Tuesday, G. D. Clark, assistant to Mr. Hall, went to the Hammond, La., field station of the Market News Service, and will take over that work, so that Mr. Lamb may proceed to Ripley, Tenn., to start the market reports on western Tennessee strawberries. Mr. Clark will later be in charge of the field station at Bowling Green, Ky.

M. M. Littleton, telegraph and radio operator at the Stevens Point, Wis., office, tendered his resignation, effective May 1. Mr. Littleton was originally appointed as an operator in the Omaha office about six and a-half years ago. He later was given an appointment as Market Station Assistant, and has worked in various offices, but for the past two years was associated with the Federal-State news service in Wisconsin.

F. C. Cadwallader, of the California inspection staff, has been given a cooperative appointment as Agent. At present, Mr. Cadwallader is stationed in the Los Angeles office.

K. S. Branch, who has been in charge of the inspection work at Minneapolis since the resignation of C. H. Johnson, will be placed in permanent charge of the Kansas City office of the Inspection Service, effective about May 26. He has already left Minneapolis, and is on two weeks' vacation at his former home in Omaha, making preparations for the removal of his family to Kansas City.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Neal D. Sanborn, who is at present substituting in Kansas City, will return to his former headquarters at Denver about May 26. From there he proceeds to the Imperial Valley of California, to study and assist with the inspection of cantaloupes, after which he will do similar work in the Salt River Valley of Arizona. About the time cantaloupes start moving from Colorado, Mr. Sanborn will go to the Rocky Ford district, where he probably will have supervision of the Federal-State inspection work on this product. This will be the first season for cooperative inspection of Colorado cantaloupes.

The local address of O. N. Harsha, who is handling shipping-point inspection of Arkansas strawberries, is Beebe, instead of Judsonia, Ark.

J. A. Marks' address is c/o Mr. Ebb Thomae, District Agent, Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn. Mr. Marks will supervise the inspection of strawberries in eastern Tennessee, having possibly six local inspectors under his direction.

R. C. Lindstrom, of the St. Louis inspection staff, has gone to the western part of Tennessee, to assist M. C. Gregory with the strawberry work at shipping points in that district. Mr. Lindstrom will have his headquarters at Jackson, while Mr. Gregory's headquarters are at Ripley, Tenn.

Inspections having been completed in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, J. H. Hoover has gone to Louisiana, to supervise the work on potatoes and possibly other vegetables. He can be reached through the Farm Bureau office, Baton Rouge, La. Most of the present work is in the vicinity of Houma, but inspections also will be made near Baton Rouge and at Alexandria. Mr. Hoover took with him to Louisiana a few of the local inspectors who had been on the Texas deal.

H. T. Longino advises that onion inspections around Laredo, Texas, will close this week. Some of the local inspectors have gone to Asherton, to help with the onion work there. Mr. Longino will return to Houston, to arrange for the closing of that station during the summer months and to take steps preparatory to the leasing of new office quarters in Houston for the fall work.

While C. J. Hansen is on two weeks' leave at Medford, Oregon, his work in San Francisco is being handled largely by C. E. Schultz, of the Market News staff. Mr. Hansen will return about May 24.

Arrangements for annual vacations in the Portland office are as follows: Mrs. D. S. Ireland will take her leave from May 26 to June 11. R. L. Ringer then goes on leave from June 16 to July 4. Miss Myrl Miller also will be on vacation at the same time as Mr. Ringer, and in this interval Mrs. Ireland will be temporarily in charge of the office, though no market reports will be issued those two weeks.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

Robert Bier now has his headquarters in Jacksonville, Fla. He can be reached through the State Marketing Bureau, 204 St. James Building. It is likely that Mr. Bier will remain in Florida two or three more months.

S. N. Green, of the Cleveland inspection office is spending a week's vacation in and around Washington. He has visited the local office a number of times the past few days. On his return to Cleveland the latter part of this week, Ray C. Bish, in charge, will go on a short period of leave.

Mr. Samson probably will be in Chicago part of next week, and is expected to be in the Washington office again by May 17.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., is on a trip to Macon, Ga., this week, where he is assisting in a peach grading and thinning campaign, preparatory to the inauguration of the season's inspection work on peaches in that district.

Miss Mary Korbly, who has been assisting in Mr. Robb's section the past few months, has resigned, effective May 15. It is understood that Miss Korbly will be married in the near future.

A printed circular has been received from J. W. Park, now at Albuquerque, New Mexico, in which his title is given as: "Encargado de la Oficina de Empréstitos de Semillas." The editor understands that, in plain English, this means: "In Charge of the Office of Loans for Seeds."

The first crate of Oregon strawberries this season arrived in Portland on May 1, according to advices from Mr. Finger. It was shipped from Myrtle Creek, just south of Roseburg and in the same latitude as Portsmouth, N.H.

Some funny errors escape the eye when reading stencils for the D. L. In the article on 'The Historic Cucumber, page 210 of last week's paper, we intended to say: "in the reign of Edward the Third," but it slipped by as: "in the region of Edward the Third."

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, who has been examining the accounts of wool dealers in Boston, will leave there on Saturday night for a short trip to the Middle West. He will be in Chicago by May 13, to assist in the excess wool profits case against D. Davis & Son, former Louisville wool dealers whose heirs are in Chicago. This case will be argued in the Federal District Court. On his return trip, Mr. DeMott probably will visit Aledo, Ill., and Canandaigua, N.Y., to secure information from wool dealers at those points. J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, also will attend this hearing at Chicago next Tuesday, to assist the U. S. District Attorney. En route, Mr. Bohannon is visiting Toledo and Detroit, to confer with U. S. Attorneys regarding other pending wool cases.

IMPORTANT: Some of the field men, especially Inspectors on shipping-point work, move so quickly from one point to another that it is difficult always to follow them with the D. L. Before a man advises us of his local address, we frequently send his Division Letter to "General Delivery." If you have missed any of your D.L.'s, inquire at the General Delivery window in your local post office.

May 9, 1924.

LEATHER ROT OF STRAWBERRIES:

Inspectors are asked to note the following: The rot of strawberries described under the name of Brown Rot in paragraph 1271 of the Inspector's Handbook is hereafter to be known as Leather Rot. This name is more descriptive than either the old one or the term "water soak" sometimes used by both shippers and receivers. There is no doubt, of course, that strawberries arrive on the market soft and leaky (even though not diseased), merely because of excessive rainfall during the time when they were ripening. This condition, however, must be sharply distinguished from Leather Rot, which is characterized by both external and internal browning, by a bitter taste, and by a softened but tough or leathery condition of the flesh.

Inspectors should also look for the color characteristics described in paragraph 1271 (I.H.B.), remembering, however, that ripe, fully-colored fruit affected with the disease usually shows no color change other than a slight darkening of the natural red. It is softened, of course, and browned inside in the same way as berries attacked at any earlier stage.

Leather Rot is a fungous disease, and the fungus causing it sometimes is found on marketed fruit as a white matted growth. It never turns gray, never forms spore masses like Gray Mold, and should not be confused with that fungus.

Leather Rot is most serious in berries from Arkansas and Tennessee, but is known to occur in Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky and Louisiana. There are indications now, on some markets, that it is giving trouble in the Hammond district this year. Inspectors in markets west of Pittsburgh, who find suspicious-looking berries in Louisiana shipments, are urged to send samples to Dr. D. H. Rose, Beebe, Ark.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 20.

May 16, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM PHILADELPHIA:

In the D.L. for April 18, Par. 2b, was a statement concerning the decision of Philadelphia commission merchants to discontinue the custom of returning to the growers the 5/8 bushel baskets in which New Jersey produce is hauled to that market. Quite a controversy has resulted between the two sides, the farmers contending that they are not getting a square deal and the dealers claiming that they are entirely within their rights in the matter. One particular result of the controversy is mentioned in a recent letter from E. R. Biddle:

"The one big feature has been the formation of a cooperative association among some of the Gloucester County farmers, to begin operations on Monday, May 12. This body has leased a large store on Dock Street and hired a manager at a good salary. They will need probably half a dozen additional employees.*** There are 12 farmers in the organization and they plan the addition of eight more, making a total of 20 members."

J. G. Scott included the following information in a letter concerning supplies of local produce on the Philadelphia market:

"From what dealers tell me, I understand that there has been more Jersey and Pennsylvania produce on this market during the past winter than ever before. Apples have been very heavy throughout the winter, as have the various root crops. For the past month or so, Eastern Shore turnip tops and other greens have been coming in large quantities, as have local shipments of sweet and white potatoes. There have been several straight carloads of turnip tops by parcel post from sections in lower Maryland and Virginia."

2a. LOST - ONE TYPEWRITER:

L. C. Smith typewriter No. 337322-8, which was stored at Sanford, Florida, in April, 1923, cannot be located. It may have been taken for use at some field station and later shipped to some other point without making complete records of the transfers. Field men and branch offices are requested to ascertain the serial numbers of their typewriters and advise this office if No. 337322-8 is found.

3a. NEW YORK ADDRESS:

Although notice of the change of address of the New York City office was published in a prior Division Letter, mail is still being received by that office, carrying the old address of 204 Franklin Street, with a forwarding address written by the Post Office there. Immediately upon receipt of this Division Letter, please remove any Addressograph plates in your office, carrying the New York City address as 204 Franklin Street. New plates should be ordered or cut at once and, until received, mail for the New York office should be addressed by hand or on the typewriter to 102 Warren Street.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. WESTERN LETTUCE AND CANTALOUPE SITUATION.

A letter of May 7, from George E. Prince, at the Los Angeles office, contains the following comments on lettuce and cantaloupes in that section:

"Reports from Arizona are to the effect that the hot weather has finished the lettuce-shipping season in that State, and some 225-250 cars have been left in the fields. First hot weather was experienced around April 20, which caused a deterioration in quality. Saturday, May 3, temperatures climbed above the 100 mark, and practically all of the shippers have closed their packing sheds.

"Lettuce shipments continue heavy from the Los Angeles district, with most stock of only ordinary to poor quality, and the weather is beginning to warm up here. The demand has been slow and market weak.

"Latest reports from the Imperial Valley indicate that the cantaloupe vines have a heavy crop, and that the warm weather the past few days is hastening them along. Some shippers estimate that, with continued favorable conditions, the first car will move around May 17."

2b. DAMAGE BY HAIL IN SOUTH TEXAS.

The following quotation is from a letter of May 7 from W. H. Mosier, in charge of the field station at Asherton, Texas:-

"On the night of May 5th, a rather severe hailstorm visited the district around Asherton, and did more or less damage to all crops. The most reliable estimates of damage place the onion acreage affected at approximately 600, with losses running anywhere from 10% to 60% of the crop. Specimens brought from the fields show the upper part of the bulbs beaten and scarred, with the bruises showing up as dark, watery spots. In most instances the tops of the onions were practically destroyed. Cotton and tomato fields were also damaged, as well as corn and other growing crops."

3b. CLEVELAND AUCTION BUSINESS EXPANDING.

Ray C. Bish, of the Cleveland office, sent the following information in a letter of May 8:-

"I thought perhaps you might be interested in knowing that the Consolidated Fruit Auction this city is now handling Texas Bermuda onions and a few cars of new potatoes through their auction. I have also been advised that this coming summer they expect to handle watermelons. The largest portion of Texas onions now coming to Cleveland is handled through the auction and prices have ranged from \$1.30 to \$1.55 per crate, sales being made on three or four cars each auction day. I do not know to just what extent the auction company expect to handle vegetables, but already it has affected considerably the jobbing business.

I understand that only one car of new potatoes has been sold this season through the auction. They have again enlarged their sales-room facilities and I presume their capacity for handling cars in the near future will be at least double what it was a year ago."

4b. PHILADELPHIA RADIO REPORTS APPRECIATED.

The Radio Section of last Saturday's "Evening Public Ledger" (Philadelphia) contained an extensive article in defense of radio reports on the weather and crops and markets. The article explained the great value of such information to the thousands of farmers, even though it may "bore" listeners-in who prefer to hear musical programs or speeches. Included in the statements were the following comments, sent to our Philadelphia office by W. T. Derickson, Director of the Delaware State Bureau of Markets:-

"So far as this office is concerned, it would be very hard for us to get along without this report, as it is information that it is absolutely necessary for us to have. We distribute this information by telephone during the season to some 200 to 300 individual farmers and shippers each day.

"In addition to these individuals we telephone this information to the banks of several of our more distant towns, and they, in turn, telephone the information to various growers and shippers in their section, and also post it in their window.

"We also telephone this information to the telegraph companies at the largest shipping stations, and they post it for the general benefit of their customers.

"In addition to distributing this information by telephone, we also have a list of growers and shippers to whom we mail these quotations each day. Therefore, you will see that this information is valuable, and is gratefully received by virtually all the growers and shippers in this State."

The Philadelphia radio program, while comprised of only three 15-minute periods daily including Saturday, is primarily a fruit and vegetable affair. Mr. Biddle's office provides fully three-fourths of the material for these market reports. A recent letter from Mr. Biddle closes with these remarks:

"In the matter of newspaper publicity for our radio reports, we are doing fine. The country newspapers are rather slow in accepting special articles, but the Camden 'Courier' (evening) is again publishing daily price lists and all the special information we can give them. Weekly papers, at both Cape Charles and Onancock, Va., are accepting special reviews. So, you see we are advancing, although slowly."

5b. NEW YORK CITY REVIEW OF WINTER CROPS.

As his last special review of the New York City market, O. D. Miller released under date of May 5 an excellent six-page report on main-crop apples, potatoes, onions, cabbage and celery. Under each of these **products**, the weekly arrivals and the jobbing range on stock from each important section **appear for the** season. Helpful explanatory notes are given in the form of text, bringing out the high spots in the season for each of these crops. Copies of this report can be obtained directly from the New York office. The review also shows in tabular form the monthly carlot receipts during the last three seasons.

6b. MARKET NEWS WORK IN NORTH CAROLINA.

In previous years, the North Carolina strawberry deal has been handled from Chadbourn because that was the heaviest shipping point, although the section centering at Rose Hill shipped more cars than the Chadbourn section. This season, acting upon the recommendation of Mr. Ross, the new Chief of the North Carolina Division of Markets, it was decided to issue strawberry reports from Raleigh. Mail service to all shipping points is the same as it would be from Chadbourn and considerable expense is saved, as Raleigh is on the leased wire. F.o.b. reports are secured through State inspectors at the various shipping points, who wire their reports to Raleigh each night, where they are consolidated and sent to Washington.

Reports on lettuce have been started; peas will soon be included, and it is probable that cucumbers and potatoes will be added to the list in a short time. The potato and cucumber reports are designed particularly to take care of the producing section around Mt. Olive and at points south of there. An office undoubtedly will be opened as usual at Elizabeth City, for the purpose of serving the northern end of the North Carolina potato deal. Whether peach reports will be issued from Raleigh or Aberdeen has not been determined.

This method of handling the service is in line with our policy of working closely with State marketing agencies wherever possible. The program is considerably larger than that given last year and, if satisfactory, probably will be followed again, next year.

7b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

During the past week, these field station summaries have been issued: IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE DEAL, Season of 1923, by V. D. Callanan and C. E. Schultz. KENTUCKY AND NORTH TENNESSEE STRAWBERRY DEAL, Season of 1923, by H. J. Clay.

These summaries, - especially the one for Imperial Valley, - are made all the more valuable by comparative statistics for the last few seasons, arranged in parallel columns.

8b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 10:

- Page 293 - Special paragraph on Cabbage in weekly review.
- 295 - California Rhubarb, - by C. J. Hansen.
 - Florida Potato Movement Active, - by F. H. Scruggs.
 - Coachella Valley Onions, - by H. A. Harris.
- 298 - Large Increase in Apple Exports.
- 299 - Marketing of Northwestern Apples.
- 304 - The Mediterranean Almond Industry.

E. W. STILLWELL
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
HAMMOND, LA. P.O. Bldg.	802	G. D. Clark	Berries	Apr. 1	May 22
HASTINGS, FLA. Byrd Bldg.	851	F. H. Scruggs	Potatoes	Apr. 14	May 20
ASHERTON, TEXAS** Schuman Bldg.	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 21	May 20
CHARLESTON, S. C.** Chamber of Commerce	858	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	May 1 May 20	May 24 June 14
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 13 May 17	May 31 June 25 June 25
RALEIGH, N. C.** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	V. D. Callanan	Berries Lettuce	May 6 May 15	May 24 June 1
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	R. L. Sutton	Berries	May 6	May 31
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 12	May 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

MONETT, MO.	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 20	June 14
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 22	July 12
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	G. D. Clark	Berries	May 26	June 10
MACON, GA.**	333	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	May 26	July 15
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Lamb	Tomatoes	June 2	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 2	June 30
OCALA, FLA.	832	F. H. Scruggs	W-melons	June 2	June 28

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. E. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	<u>Closed</u> May 15 Nov. 15 Jan. 30
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 14	May 10

** State Dept. cooperating. Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for in-
G. A. DeHaven) spection work.

G. E. Prince in Los Angeles office,
C. E. Schultz in San Francisco office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. ANTHRACNOSE OF NORTHWESTERN APPLES.

The attention of all Inspectors is called to the danger of confusing true Anthracnose of apples with the disease which, at present, for convenience is called "False Anthracnose" by our Pathologists. It is almost impossible to distinguish these during the early stages of their development. The true Anthracnose can be positively identified by the fruiting bodies which develop "under favorable conditions of moisture and temperature in concentric circles on the spots. When these open, they disclose creamy masses of spores." The false Anthracnose never develops fruiting bodies of this kind. True Anthracnose has seldom been found in any except the damper regions of the Northwest. For this reason, decay of this kind found in apples coming from a drier section, such as Yakima and Wenatchee, is likely to be the false Anthracnose. To avoid the possibility of error in the identification of this decay, it is best to avoid the use of the name "Anthracnose," when there is any doubt. The decay either should be described or the term "Anthracnose-like decay" should be used.

2c. INSPECTION PROSPECTS FOR GEORGIA PEACHES.

In a recent letter, E. E. Conklin, Jr., advised that prospects are good for inspection work on practically all the peaches from Georgia. Not only has the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange lined up for inspection of its fruit, but the American Fruit Growers and other leading factors as well. It will require a large corps of inspectors to handle this volume of work.

Mr. Conklin has been making a tour of the various shipping points, speaking on thinning, grading, grades and inspection. These meetings have been attended by practically all the important growers throughout Georgia, except in the northern producing district. Mr. Conklin's schedule was as follows: On May 8 he addressed meetings at Montezuma and Marshallville; May 9 at Fort Valley and Perry; Saturday, May 10, at Gray and Monticello. Monday's meetings were held at Macon, Byron and Reynolds; Tuesday's at Yatesville and Thomaston; Wednesday's at Woodbury and Woodland, with a final gathering at Americus on Thursday.

The crop is very large, and Mr. Conklin states that the interest in grading and quality is greater than in any recent year. He has been spending considerable time in the orchards, and many growers are thinning their fruit, - a practice almost unknown previously in that territory. Community packing sheds are appearing everywhere; at Marshallville three large packing houses are nearly completed. The Burke sizer is being introduced for the first time, and there will be at least 15 of them in the district. The shipping season is expected to open with Uneedas about June 5.

CANTALOUPE production in the Imperial Valley has been estimated at 5,436,000 crates, - an increase of 660,000 over last year and 1,050,000 crates in excess of the 1922 crop. Acreage is around 30,000, and yield per acre is indicated as 180 crates.

3c. CALIFORNIA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following is a summary of California shipping-point inspections by products, from the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1, 1923) until the end of April:

FRUITS			VEGETABLES		
Product.	Carload inspections	L.C.L. inspections	Product.	Carload inspections	L.C.L. inspections
Apples	5463	3	Artichokes	8	
Apricots	50		Asparagus	4	
Grapes	26,442	2	Cabbage	127	
Lemons	23		Cantaloupes	714	
Nectarines	1		Carrots	6	
Oranges	912	5	Casabas	25	
Peaches	291		Cauliflower	1259	
Pears	1053		Celery	420	
Plums	31		Cardoon	1	
Strawberries	20		Chicory(Endive)	129	
Other berries	18		Garlic	3	
Mixed fruits	1		Honey Dews	33	
Mixed fruits			Lettuce	3529	
& Vegetables	22		Onions	96	3
Raisins		1	Parsley	4	1
Walnuts	25		Peas	43	
			Peppers	1	
			Potatoes	139	1
			Rhubarb	4	
			Spinach	2	
			Sweet Potatoes	3	
			Tomatoes	628	
			Watermelons	112	
			Mixed veg-		
			etables	451	
Total	34,352	11	Total	7,741	5

Total fruits and vegetables inspected: 42,093 cars and 16 L.C.L. shipments.

4c. INSPECTION PROSPECTS IN EAST TENNESSEE.

A letter of May 13, from J. A. Marks, at Chattanooga, Tenn., includes the following information on strawberries in that district:

"We are loading our first car at Sale Creek today. The weather has been very cool and berries are ripening slowly. *** We held seven meetings last week with the various growers' associations, and I held another meeting last night at Winchester. Most of these were well attended, and we found a lot of interest being shown in the matter of better grading and packing. At Winchester, they agreed to face the No. 1 stock, and it was decided to do the same thing in the Sequatchie Valley last week. The big problem with some of the associations is going to be the securing of competent help. *** The season so far has been very favorable, and the outlook is for the best-quality berries shipped in a number of years."

5c. FURTHER PROGRESS IN MISSISSIPPI.

F. S. Kinsey wrote a very interesting letter from Mississippi on May 13. He told of the inspection of the first car of vegetables ever to have been shipped from Pinola, - a car of carrots. Because of lack of experience in matters of grading and proper packing, the local interests required a lot of coaching and instruction from Mr. Kinsey to get the carrots in desired shape and to load the car. In the process of clearing the packing shed to receive the various loads of carrots as they came in, and in the packing and repacking of the stock, as well as the inspection work itself and the loading of the car, more than 50 persons had a hand. The association expects to ship 150 to 200 cars of stuff from Pinola and vicinity. Mr. Kinsey's letter continues in part as follows:-

"A three weeks' drought over most of the truck section of the State has cut off the pea crop suddenly, probably with a one-fourth loss, and cabbage also may be cut one-fifth to one-fourth. It is also causing some ill-shaped carrots and beets, and has held back all the vegetables. *** Tomorrow, I go down to Centerville, almost at the Louisiana line, where we will inspect perhaps 75 cars of beans, chiefly for the Robinson Mercantile Company. I was fortunate in securing a college-trained man, with considerable experience in beans, to look after this responsible job."

Mr. Kinsey submitted the following list of loading points in Mississippi at which inspections are being, or will be, made, and says that other points may be added later:

<u>Entire output inspected at these points:</u>		<u>Other points:</u>
Braxton	Magee	Beauregard
Centerville	Monticello	Carpenter
D'Lo	Moselle	Hazlehurst
Fayette	Pinola	Utica
Florence	Sandersville	
Jackson	Silver Creek	
Laurel		

6c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS.

Inspections made in Florida during period Apr. 16 to 30 were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Arcadia.....	9	Potatoes.....	405
Fort Myers.....	34	Celery.....	75
Hastings.....	400	Tomatoes.....	22
Homestead.....	36	Mixed Vegetables...	2
Leesburg.....	1	Cabbage.....	1
Okeechobee.....	2	Total.....	505
Palmetto.....	31	Grapefruit.....	61
Sanford.....	47	Oranges.....	50
Winter Haven.....	57	Mixed Citrus.....	1
Total.....	617	Total.....	112

In the Division Letter for April 25, Par. 11c, inspections for the first half of April were tabulated. Grand total this season to the middle of April was given as 5,813. By adding the 617 cars inspected during the second half of the month, the total to April 30 is 6,430 cars. The daily average had increased slightly to 47 cars. Total vegetables inspected since the beginning of this service last November are 4,558 cars and total citrus fruits 1,872 cars.

7c. LETTUCE AND APPLE INSPECTIONS IN NORTHWEST.

The following items are taken from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 1, recently issued by F. E. Bailey, at Spokane:

P. S. Darlington, District Inspector at Seattle, has been requested to certify approximately 200 carloads of head lettuce for the Northwestern Fruit Exchange. Henry Huff, District Inspector at Sumner, whose district adjoins that of Mr. Darlington, has application for the certification of about 150 cars of lettuce for the Puget Sound Vegetable Growers' Association.

The Skookum Packers' Association is considering applying for Federal-State shipping-point inspection on all association tonnage shipped from the Wenatchee-Okanogan district during the coming season. The association ships approximately 3,000 cars and at present maintains its own inspection staff of about 30 men.

8c. INSPECTION OF FLORIDA POTATOES.

Up to the end of April, nearly 500 carloads of potatoes had been inspected around Hastings. R. M. Peterson recently wrote: "We are busier than ever at Elkton this week, but do not expect much business after this week. We inspected 26 cars at Elkton alone yesterday (May 13). This system of inspecting the potatoes on the farm at the grader is more difficult to handle than the usual car inspection, but is much more interesting as it brings us into direct contact with growers, and most of the farmers are glad to see us."

9c. CAR MARKS ON ARKANSAS BERRY INSPECTIONS.

O. N. Harsha wrote from Beebe, Ark., on May 13: "In all strawberries inspected from this district, the cars will be marked 'AK' with the date."

10c. IMPORTANT REINSPECTION OF PEANUTS IN CHICAGO.

E. J. Maynard, of the Chicago office, has sent the following interesting letter regarding a reinspection of peanuts in Chicago on May 14:-

"On May 10, I made an inspection of a car of No. 2 shelled Spanish peanuts and reported as follows:- 'Unshelled damaged and moldy 5.92%; small shrivelled and small broken pieces 2.32%; foreign material 0.043%.' The car was rejected by the receiver and Mr. Morgan, manager of Barnhardt Mercantile Co., of Denison, Texas, made a trip here to make a settlement. He arrived at our office early on the morning of the 14th with blood in his eye, and said that they never shipped out such a poor car and that I must have been too critical in sorting. I told him that I had been rather lenient in this particular case and showed him the sample. He questioned some of the nuts set aside as damaged and moldy, but, on the other hand, I showed some worse ones that I had overlooked in the main sample.

"Then he said that the car had not been properly sampled and requested a reinspection. Mr. Balster and I were assigned the task of reinspecting, and Mr. Morgan asked to accompany us. We went out and drew samples from about 30 sacks and sorted them with the following results; 'Damaged and moldy 6.13%; small shrivelled and small broken pieces 3.03%; no foreign material.' After we had them sorted, Mr. Morgan again called at this office, examined our samples and admitted that we were right, passed around the cigars and thanked us for our courtesy.

-Continued over-

"He told us that, at the time the peanut grades were established, he was doubtful if the Government inspectors would be able to make a satisfactory inspection, because, in his opinion, they knew absolutely nothing about peanuts. After watching our methods of sampling with the trier and grading, he is thoroughly convinced that we must have made a careful study of peanuts and the grades, and said that, while he sustained a large loss on this car, the loss was offset by the information gained as to the quality of our inspections."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb left Washington on Tuesday night for a trip through the South and Middle West, where he will look especially into the matter of inspections at shipping points. He was to be in Atlanta on Thursday and Friday; at Chattanooga Saturday and Sunday; and at Jackson, Tenn., on Monday. After that, he probably will visit the following points and possibly additional ones: Beebe, Ark.; Jackson, Miss.; Baton Rouge and New Orleans, La.; Nashville, Ark., and Kansas City. Mr. Robb may not return to Washington until the early part of June. Temporarily, business at Inspection Service headquarters is being cared for by Mr. Sherman and Mr. Farnworth.

Shortly after Mr. Robb's departure, Miss Grace Robinson, his secretary, received notice of her father's death in Massachusetts and left at once for Boston, to be gone until next week.

Mr. Samson has returned to his desk after his nine-weeks' trip through the South and West. He reports an ever-increasing interest in standardization of fruits and vegetables in all sections of the country.

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor, who has been on a two weeks' trip in connection with shipping-point inspection work, was in Cincinnati today, and expected to leave for Chicago at noon.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, is among the Department employees who are assisting each week-end with the preparation of the new 20-acre camp site leased by the Portland USDA Club on the southwest slope of Mt. Hood. By July 4, it is hoped to have ready a piped water supply, a central assembly and dance hall, frames for tents, and other conveniences.

Some errors have been discovered in the tabulation of shipping-point inspections, published as Par. 4c in the Division Letter for May 2. Corrections will be published as promptly as possible, and will substantially increase the grand total.

The monthly tables of inspections at city markets and for the Navy and Marine Corps will appear in next week's Division Letter.

The release of this present D.L. was unavoidably delayed.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

Sympathy is being extended L. H. Martin, of the Washington staff, in the death of his mother last Wednesday morning. Interment was at the Congressional Cemetery, Southeast Washington, this morning.

On the closing of the Grand Rapids field station yesterday, R. H. Shoemaker will take some leave before going South for his next assignment.

It has been decided to operate the field station on Georgia peaches at Macon instead of Fort Valley this season. Market reports probably will be started about May 26.

R. C. Rose, Inspector at Cincinnati, is out on account of illness. He also suffered from a fall last week. A. H. Polster, of the New York staff, has been sent to Cincinnati to handle inspections in that city until Mr. Rose's return to duty.

The association at Ripley, Tenn., has decided that it does not wish inspection of strawberries because of local conditions this season, and M. C. Gregory, who had gone there to handle this work, is now in Memphis, substituting for R. A. Smith, while the latter takes his annual leave. Berry inspections will be made by R. C. Lindstrom at Jackson, Tenn.

H. T. Longino has been in conference with State officials at Austin, Texas, regarding shipping-point inspections. It is likely that work on tomatoes will be started at Jacksonville, Texas, within the next two weeks.

St. Louis reported the arrival in that city on May 10 of a few pepper crates, each containing two or three Tom Watson watermelons from Florida. They sold at \$5 per crate.

V. D. Callanan, who is issuing strawberry market reports at Raleigh, N. C., made a trip to the Chadbourn section on Thursday. He has begun to issue reports on other products, at present covering lettuce in addition to strawberries. The State Division of Markets is handling inspections of berries at leading shipping points.

During the early part of this week, F. M. Patton was on a short trip to White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., and Petersburg and Richmond, Va., in the interest of telegraphic reports of shipments and inspection service.

O. D. Miller, formerly in charge of the New York market news office, stopped at Washington last Saturday to visit associates in the local office, before proceeding to the Imperial Valley of California and other western cantaloupe districts.

OFFICE: (CONTINUED)

"Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 1, for Washington, Oregon and Northern Idaho" is the heading on an interesting five-page mimeographed paper issued on May 6 from the Spokane office. F. E. Bailey, as Supervising Inspector has signed the sheet. The introductory notes explain that this new sheet follows the plan of the Inspection News Letters published in Florida and Colorado this season and that its contents are for the confidential information of cooperative inspectors in the Northwest. The Letter will not be issued weekly, but as frequently as there is sufficient material of interest.

Having completed his tour of Georgia peach-shipping points, E. E. Conklin, Jr., has returned to Florida, and for the present has his headquarters with the State Marketing Bureau, at Jacksonville.

About May 25, Robert Bier expects to transfer his base of operations to Macon, Ga., possibly taking with him Inspectors Behnke, DeHaven and Rupert to assist in handling the work on Georgia peaches. Mr. Bier advises that Florida inspections have passed the 7,000 mark.

R. M. Peterson will remain in general charge of the Florida inspection work, after Mr. Bier's removal to Georgia. Mr. Peterson will go from the Hastings-Elkton district of Florida to Ocala about May 25, making Ocala his headquarters for some time.

Tentative plans include the transfer of F. E. Hooper from Fort Myers, Fla., to Beaufort, S. C., to assist in the inspection of potatoes and other crops, about May 20; the transfer of J. C. Townsend from Palmetto, Fla., to Crystal Springs, Miss., on vegetable inspections; and the transfer of B. E. Shaffer from Arcadia to Stuart, Fla., to handle pineapple inspections. A. E. Mercker will soon go from Hastings, Fla., to North Carolina, to supervise shipping-point work in that State.

Last Saturday a group photograph was taken of employees in the Washington offices of the F. & V. Division. The foreground of the picture is one of the Department tulip beds. Although a few of the Washington force were absent, the group includes nearly 60 members of the technical and clerical staff. It is a very clear, good photograph, size $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 26 inches, and sells for 75¢ a copy.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 21

May 23, 1924.

→ (Contents Confidential)

1a. KEYS TO LOCKS ON SPECIAL EQUIPMENT BOXES.

(REPLY)

When the special boxes were made, a few years ago, for shipping mimeographs, addressographs and typewriters used at field stations, locks and keys were procured which were identical with each other in order that any of our force possessing a key would be able to unlock or lock any of the boxes. Later, an additional supply of locks and keys was purchased, presumably identical with the first lot. It has been discovered, however, that all the locks and keys are not uniform. Consequently, difficulty is likely to be experienced when some field man receives a box which cannot be opened with his key. In order to correct this matter as soon as possible, every person having custody of one or more equipment boxes with locks is requested to furnish the Washington office at once a sketch of the key in his possession which fits the locks now in his custody. This may be drawn on a large scale, so as to show as clearly as possible the relative location and size of the teeth on the key.

2a. FEDERATED FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS.

Shipments originating in 39 States were sold by the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, in 772 cities and towns in 46 States during 1923, the first year of the association's existence. The total number of cars handled by the receiving and sales departments was 33,510, according to reports received by the Division of Agricultural Cooperation. Of this number 30%, or about 10,000, were loaded with potatoes; 28%, about 9,300, were loaded with apples; 24-3/4%, about 8,200, were loaded with peaches, pears, etc.; and 17-1/4%, about 5,700, with other fruits and vegetables. The wide distribution given to products from different parts of the country is indicated by the fact that 621 cars of Indiana onions were sold in 88 markets in 25 States; Georgia watermelons were sold in 169 markets; 262 cars of Kentucky strawberries were sold in 85 markets; and Alabama Satsuma oranges were sold in 33 cities.

Of the cars handled, 93.1% were sold on an f.o.b. basis; 4% were sold at private sales after the arrival of the car at destination; and 2.9% were sold through the fruit auctions in the larger cities.

There was a credit of \$26,862.50 in the revolving fund at the close of the year. This fund, which is for the purpose of furnishing working capital, is accumulated by a charge of \$2.50 on each car handled. The balance in the "retain" fund on December 31 was \$9,480. This amount represents the excess of charges for services over the cost of the services rendered.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. LOUISIANA STRAWBERRIES TO PANAMA.

Various conditions made it advisable to continue the Hammond, La., field station about a week longer than usual. According to a recent letter from G. D. Clark, who was in charge of this station during the latter part of its period of operation, the weather about the middle of May was exceptionally favorable to the production of berries of high quality. Shipments for this (present) week were expected to average 15 cars daily, whereas last season the movement was practically completed by this time. Not only the fact that quality of the berries has held up this season, but also the tendency of growers to pack more of the fruit in quart containers to meet the demand of city markets, has helped to prolong the shipping period.

The Louisiana Cooperative Strawberry Growers' Association has made various L.C.L. shipments to Panama this year, via rail to New Orleans and then by boat, most of the lots comprising 200 crates. Up to the middle of May, the total thus shipped was about two carloads. The fruit arrived in very good condition and returns from this venture have been quite satisfactory. The f.o.b. market strengthened some days ago by reason of the temporary scarcity of express cars and the consequent curtailment of shipments. The Hammond field station was closed yesterday, but shipments from that section probably will continue for a few more days.

2b. ASPARAGUS FIVE AND A-HALF INCHES IN CIRCUMFERENCE.

The following report was written by V. G. Gibson, of the St. Louis office, on May 20:

"While on the street yesterday, I noticed some asparagus, - mention of which I thought might interest you.

"This grass was white stock, and the so-called No. 1 measured $5 \frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference and the No. 2 approximately 4 inches. Both of these grades were in bunches of ten stalks each, and 9 inches long. This stock came from a thirteen-year-old planting in St. Louis, County, and, in the cutting from which this particular bunch came, the grower was able to bring in eighty bunches of the No. 1 stock and forty of the No. 2, and says that only two years more will be the life of this planting. The quality of this grass was excellent, contrary to what might be expected of stock so large, and was very tender even down to the lower part of the stalk.

"There are a number of asparagus plantings in and around St. Louis, but no one seems to know the extent of the acreage, and, so far as crop reporting is concerned, I presume it makes no great difference, since all is consumed in this market."

3b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 17:

Page 309 - Special paragraph on Strawberries in weekly review.

311 - Potatoes Starting from South Carolina, - by Mr. Bertush.

South Carolina Cabbage Delayed, - by Mr. Bertush.

Alabama Cabbage Output Light, - by Mr. Evers.

Additional Field Stations to be Opened.

320 - Increasing Demand Abroad for American Dried Fruits.

E. W. STILLWELL.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

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MACON, GA.**	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	May 28	July 15
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Lamb	Tomatoes	June 5	June 30
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ASHERTON, TEXAS** Schuman Bldg.	804	W. H. Mosier	Onions	Apr. 21	May 24

** State Dept. cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) To Florida for in-
G. A. De Haven) spection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. FURTHER REPORTS FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

Mr. Robb was at Chattanooga, Tenn., on May 19, when he wrote the following letter regarding the situation in that territory:-

"Strawberry shipments from eastern Tennessee began last week with a few cars of Klondikes. The main movement begins this week, one car of Aromas, the principal variety in this part of the State, being shipped from Cleveland today. The weather is clear and warm, and the berries are ripening rapidly. Cleveland and Sale Creek are the most important shipping points at which inspection is being offered. Some inspected cars will be shipped from Dunlap, Jasper, Pikeville, Sequatchie, and Winchester. All these points are within about 35 miles of Chattanooga, and Mr. Marks is able to supervise the whole section.

"The U. S. grades are basis of the grading and inspection. At Cleveland two sizes of the U. S. No. 1 grade are being put out - '3/4 in. to 1 in.' and '1 in. and larger.' At all other places the No. 1, grade is being used without any attempt to make different sizes. Berries under 3/4 in. and those slightly soft, undercolored, or otherwise defective are marked No. 2. Since the quality is generally excellent and great care is being used by the growers, there will be very little No. 2 stock shipped. The season here will probably last about 18 days."

2c. PROGRESS OF WORK IN LOUISIANA.

J. H. Hoover, at Baton Rouge, advises that the shipping-point inspection work in that district is opening up rather slowly. Shipments are expected to become heavy next week, by which time Mr. Hoover hopes to line up considerable business. He has been holding meetings among the growers, instructing them how to grade and pack their products. This work has been all the more difficult because many of the farmers do not speak English nor understand it, so that Mr. Hoover says "you have to show them how instead of tell them how."

3c. PROPER METHOD OF STATING CAR INITIALS.

In preparing certificates of express car inspections, it should be remembered that some express or private line cars are the sole property of that line or company, while other express cars are leased by the railroad owner to the express company. If the car is strictly an express or private line car, the initials of the company will be followed by "X."

In cases where the car is actually owned by a railroad and leased to the express company, the initials of the railroad always appear on the car and should be used in the inspection certificate. These railroad initials should be followed by the words "(express refrigerator)" or by the initials of the leasing express company or private car line, as "(SEEX)", "(AREX)" or "(ARTX)", so that the certificate will show that the movement was by express.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge, F. & V. Div.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1923	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	18	31	49	46	5	0	\$ 196	\$ 0	2
Baltimore	13	20	33	46	0	0	116	10.00	0
Boston	63	80	143	116	64	4	556	15.00	14
Buffalo	58	44	102	63	56	6	128	100.00	7
Chicago	89	155	244	271	2	2	848	77.50	40
Cincinnati	7	30	37	59	1	0	140	5.00	3
Cleveland	24	78	102	162	54	1	328	32.50	17
Columbus	14	27	41	26	37	0	164	0	0
Denver	7	12	19	26	1	0	76	0	0
Detroit	56	48	104	129	49	0	392	12.50	3
Erie	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Fort Worth	7	12	19	0	0	0	76	0	0
Harrisburg	1	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	1
Houston	5	6	11	30	0	0	44	0	0
Indianapolis	9	18	27	38	1	0	92	10.00	2
Kansas City	40	71	111	111	0	0	428	5.00	2
Los Angeles	0	0	-	13	0	0	0	0	-
Memphis	24	19	43	21	29	0	160	12.50	10
Milwaukee	30	12	42	53	14	0	164	2.50	1
Minneapolis	28	46	74	62	0	0	240	30.00	1
New Haven	17	40	57	0	2	1	168	7.50	9
New Orleans	35	65	100	63	60	3	336	40.00	16
New York	379	361	740	518	263	0	2500	280.00	37
Norfolk	12	14	26	12	6	0	104	0	5
Omaha	23	8	36	43	1	0	144	0	2
Philadelphia	40	72	112	215	56	5	420	17.50	20
Pittsburgh	50	91	141	189	45	1	548	10.00	17
Portland	5	53	58	0	0	0	196	5.00	0
Salt Lake City	0	3	3	0	0	2	8	2.50	-
San Francisco	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
St. Louis	24	174	198	163	129	0	672	52.50	14
Washington	10	36	46	28	9	0	180	2.50	15
Wilkes-Barre	7	7	14	17	7	0	52	2.50	6
TOTAL	1100	1633	2733	2526	891	25	\$9480	\$732.50	\$ 244

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.... 1100 | Inspections for Carriers.. 891
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections 1633 | Declined for lack of time. 25
 Grand total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections 2733 | Total Fees Assessed. \$10604.00**

** Total fees assessed includes \$52.50 for mixed car fees, and \$95.00 for certificates issued to exporters by the New York office at \$1.00 each.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING APRIL, 1924

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS.									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	39475		6267		45742		115		0	
		7151		0		7151		25		0
NEW YORK	743181		11138		754319		2396		0	
		315597		0		315597		37		0
NORFOLK	0		0		0		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0
PHILADELPHIA	372989		4443		377432		627		0	
		21034		169		21203		114		0
SAN DIEGO	427597		13955		441552		7		0	
		72508		2793		75301		315		0
SAN FRANCISCO	660232		80420		740652		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0
SAN PEDRO	253070		43737		296807		17		0	
		0		0		0		0		0
VALLEJO	143886		774		144660		0		0	
		23402		0		23402		0		0
TOTALS	2640430		160734		2801164		3162		0	
		439692		2962		442654		491		0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	24358	460	24818	0	0
NORFOLK	38700	0	38700	300	0
TOTALS	63058	460	63518	300	0

In addition to the above the New York office inspected for the U. S. Lines 402,822 lbs. of vegetables and 53,832 lbs. of fruit, total 456,654, of which total 50,879 lbs. were rejected. For the Munson Line 47,916 lbs. of vegetables and 22,030 lbs. of fruit, of which total 1,840 lbs. were rejected.

The San Pedro office also inspected 1,748 lbs. of bread, 4,516 lbs. of butter, and 1,568 lbs. of cheese, making a total of 7,832 lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected 27,535 lbs. of bread for the Navy, of which 68 lbs. were rejected.

OFFICE NOTES:

L. G. C. Peirce, of Texas, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist, and will report for duty at Jackson, Miss., next Monday. He will assist Mr. Kinsey with the supervision of inspection work at shipping points in that State. Mr. Kinsey already has G. W. Winfrey assisting him, and may have a third man in the person of J. C. Townsend, Jr., who is now on shipping-point work in Florida. Mr. Peirce attended Grinnell (Iowa) College from 1905 to 1909, and recently took a correspondence course with the American Institute of Agriculture, Chicago, on the marketing of fruits and vegetables and live stock. In 1909, he was employed as State salesman by the Grinnell Vehicle Company and the Cooper Mfg. Company. Subsequent to 1913, Mr. Peirce was engaged in business at Jacksonville, Texas, and in operating a large farm near Gilmer, Texas.

Mr. Samson, during his recent visit in Colorado, addressed the growers and shippers of the State in a series of peach and onion grade meetings, which were held at Palisade, Delta, Olathe and Montrose. At Olathe the interest was so keen that it was necessary to hold the meeting in the Opera House.

Mr. Stillwell plans to leave Washington early next week for Macon, Ga., where he will make final arrangements for this season's market news service on peaches, with particular reference to the extent of participation of this Bureau in the distribution of the crop. En route South, Mr. Stillwell expects to stop for a day each at Raleigh, N.C., Charleston, S. C., and Atlanta, Ga., to confer with representatives of the News Service and with State officials. From Macon, he may go to other field stations in the South and may also visit one or two market stations before his return to Washington about June 9.

V. D. Callanan will leave Raleigh, N.C., Saturday or Sunday, for Macon, Ga., where he will be in charge of the field station on peaches. Advice from the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange indicates that the first car of Mayflowers will move about May 28, and that three or four cars of peaches will be shipped next week.

R. E. Shoemaker, who operated the Grand Rapids field station, was a visitor to the Washington office on Thursday. Last night he proceeded to Raleigh, N.C., where he will succeed Mr. Callanan, in charge of market reports for North Carolina.

The first strawberry market report issued by A. E. Prugh at Monett, Mo., has as part of the heading an outline map of Arkansas and Missouri, with lines marking the White County district and the Ozark section. Front page of this first report also carries a table of icing and freight charges on berries from Monett to 30 leading markets.

By the end of this week it is expected that the strawberry inspection work at Jackson, Tenn., will have been completed, with a total of about 80 cars. R. C. Lindstrom will return to St. Louis, and handle the inspection work, while B. S. Jones takes annual leave.

OFFICE NOTES (CONT'D):

F. E. Hooper has been transferred from Fort Myers, Fla., to Savannah, Ga. - instead of to Beaufort, S.C., as forecast last week. He can be reached in care of J. L. Budreau & Co., Savannah. It is understood that the association in that territory, of which Mr. Budreau is a leading factor, will have potatoes, beans and other vegetables to be inspected.

First cars of Imperial Valley cantaloupes rolled Monday, and shipments became more active each succeeding day this week. C. E. Schultz, who will be in charge of the Brawley field station, left San Francisco last night. G. E. Prince, who will assist Mr. Schultz at Brawley, had previously gone from the Los Angeles office.

B. E. Shaffer, our Inspector at Arcadia, Fla., has gone to Palmetto. His mail address is P.O. Box 238. Robert Bier and E. E. Conklin, Jr., can now be reached in care of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, Macon, Ga. R. M. Peterson should now be addressed at Ocala, Fla. Address J. Harold Hoover c/o State Extension Service, Baton Rouge, La.

On the list of field stations of the News Service, note that tomatoes have been added at Ocala, Fla. The market reports on tomatoes and watermelons will be issued under a cooperative arrangement with the State Marketing Bureau, Jacksonville.

Wm. E. Lewis, of the Washington staff, went to Buffalo and on Thursday assisted J. W. Raplee in the reinspection of four cars of Texas onions. Last night he was to proceed to Pittsburgh, to assist J. J. Gardner until another man can be assigned to Pittsburgh.

The Philadelphia office advises that much mail still is being sent to the old address, 308 Bourse Bldg. The present address of the joint branch office is 236 Municipal Pier, No. 4, South, - Chestnut Street and Delaware Avenue. Please immediately discard old Addressograph plates and see that mail for Philadelphia is properly addressed in the future.

F. Earl Parsons has gone to Norfolk, Va., on special inspection work on potatoes and other crops. Until the middle of July, his mail should be sent to Room 201, Southern Produce Bldg., Norfolk, instead of to the State offices at Richmond.

Friday, May 30, being Memorial Day, is a holiday in all offices. It is likely that the Division Letter will be a day late next week, on account of this holiday.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 22

May 31, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. RELIEF ASSOCIATION APPLICATIONS.

Applications for membership in the Department of Agriculture Immediate Relief Association may be obtained from Mrs. Mills in Room 502. The object of this Association is to extend immediate relief to the family or friends of a deceased member, \$250 being paid immediately to the designated beneficiary upon notice of the member's death. Employees of the Department not over 50 years of age and stationed in Washington or its immediate vicinity are eligible to membership. The membership dues are \$1.00 with application and assessments as additional funds are needed. Present membership is about 1,300. This Association is similar to those in other Departments in Washington.

2a. MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOMATO DEAL.

C. H. Behnke, Inspector in Charge of the shipping-point work at Palmetto Fla., wrote as follows on May 24:

"The tomato season in Manatee County usually lasts four or five weeks, depending on the weather, and this year will be no exception, for shipments will be practically completed by June 1. The first whole carload was rolled out of this section April 30. This was two or three weeks later than the date of the first shipment last year.

"On the whole, the quality of the stock that was packed in the beginning of the season was poor, considerable immature and Nail Head spotted tomatoes being packed. However, the market was strong, for supplies were light from the East Coast of the State at that time. Cash buyers were active the first week and top prices were around \$6 a crate f.o.b.

"Quality of the second picking was better and the movement was heavy, reaching a total out of the section of approximately 450 cars. Many fields have become badly infected with Nail Head fungus, however, and the quality of the stock packed the past week has been so poor on this account as to make it almost impossible to grade it out to meet the No. 1 requirements without culling from a half to three-fourths of the fruit. Shippers generally have not been disposed to do this and, consequently, shipping-point inspection has been difficult to maintain under these conditions. Out of the 969 cars rolled to date, we have inspected 244 or approximately 25% of the total movement.

"Of the 5,000 acres of tomatoes in Manatee County this year, approximately 200 acres were staked. This is a comparatively new method of growing them in this section but is meeting with greater favor each year. Spreading the initial cost of the stakes over a period of three years, it costs about \$75 an acre more by this method. A considerable gain of No. 1 fruit of the larger sizes and consequently greater net returns per acre more than makes up for this added cost, and it is anticipated there will be a much greater acreage staked in the county next year."

[MARKET NEWS SERVICE]

1b. FURNISH NAMES OF PAPER MANUFACTURERS.

This Bureau submits proposals from time to time for the securing of bids on mimeograph paper for use in our various branch offices. In order to get the best price, considering not only the quality of paper and time of delivery, but the location which will involve the smallest transportation charge it is requested that all of our branch offices or traveling field men, who know of paper manufacturers, furnish us the names and addresses of such parties in order that proposals may be sent to them. We are particularly anxious to learn of paper firms in the West, which might furnish paper for our Pacific Coast offices. Mark your reply for the attention of Mr. Evans.

2b. ICEBERG LETTUCE FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

Writing from New York City under date of May 22, C. L. Brown tells of the arrival of Iceberg lettuce from the South:

"We are receiving some Iceberg lettuce from South Carolina, packed in the regular California style and in California crates. Two cars were sold yesterday at a range of \$2.75-3.50, or practically the same as the best Los Angeles lettuce. Another car arrived today and sold for \$3, which is slightly under the market price for the best Los Angeles Iceberg."

3b. MAY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

In addition to the numerous crop reports and tables of farm prices, attention is called to the following material on fruits and vegetables:

Page 148 - Orange Crop of California is 24,500,000 Boxes. (filler)

Potato acreage in Norfolk District. (filler)

Cantaloupe acreage in North Carolina. (filler)

152 - Prospects for Peach Crop in Southern States, May 1.

Texas Honey Ball Melons, - by W. D. Googe.

Acreage of snap beans in North Carolina. (filler)

156 - Early potatoes in North Carolina. (filler)

157 - Cantaloupe Supply and Prices (with chart).

164 - Cucumber acreage in North Carolina. (filler)

167 - American Apples in British Markets (with price tables).

Foreign Demand for American Oranges.

The May Supplement was issued more promptly than previous Supplements, and it was impossible to prepare the table of carlot shipments for April in time for this paper. The April and May shipments probably will appear in June issue.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 24:

Page 325 - Special paragraph on Cantaloupes in weekly review.

326 - Peach crop in Georgia. (filler)

327 - Michigan Potato Deal Closing, - by R. H. Shoemaker

Arkansas Berry Season Active, - by R. L. Sutton

North Carolina Berry Movement Passes Peak, - by V. D. Callanan

Shipping strawberries to Panama. (filler)

333. - Large asparagus on St. Louis market. (filler)

5b. STRAWBERRY REPORTS FROM EASTERN SHORE.

In a letter of May 19, from Philadelphia, J. G. Scott tells of a trip which he made to the Eastern Shore the preceding Thursday and Friday. He arranged for daily f.o.b. wires on strawberries from Marion, Salisbury, and Pittsville, Maryland, these wires to be sent by either the man directly in charge of the local auction or a member of the local association. He visited three newspapers, - the Wicomico "News," the "Evening Times" at Salisbury, and the "Marylander & Herald" at Princess Anne. Each asked to be given a weekly write-up, covering the Philadelphia market. The Traffic Manager of the Salisbury-Wicomico Chamber of Commerce, at Salisbury, said that his organization would welcome this special service and support it. Mr. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, had arranged for f.o.b. reports on berries from the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange, at Onley, Va., and from W. T. Derickson, of the Delaware Bureau of Markets.

6b. ADDITIONAL FIELD SUMMARIES ISSUED.

The following field station summaries were issued during last few days: MISSISSIPPI TOMATO DEAL, season 1923, by R. H. Shoemaker. WESTERN NEW YORK CELERY DEAL, season 1923, by C. L. Brown. SOUTHEASTERN WATERMELON DEAL, season 1923, by J. D. Evers. TEXAS WATERMELON DEAL, season 1923, by W. D. Googe and J. Austen Hunter.

The last summary is illustrated with an outline map of Texas, on which are clearly marked the five distinct watermelon sections in Texas.

7b. REVIEW OF OREGON 1923 POTATO SEASON.

Under date of May 26, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, issued an excellent review of the Oregon potato season. It covers four pages, and includes a chart showing price changes and a list of carlot shipments by stations. Total shipments are given as 1,546 cars, for the period covered. Under a cooperative agreement with the State, Mr. Ringer supervised the inspection of 1,023 cars of these potatoes during the season.

8b. UNLOADS SUMMARY FOR NEWARK MARKET.

On May 16, the New York City office issued a four-page summary of 1923 unloads in the Newark, N. J., market. It shows the carlot unloads of 36 fruits and vegetables by months and by States of origin. Total of these 36 products is 9,286 cars. The l.c.l. receipts, principally potatoes, apples, peaches and strawberries from New Jersey and other near-by States, equaled 919 cars. Stuff hauled from New York City by truck is estimated at 5,102 carloads, and that trucked in from near-by producing sections at 1,701 carloads, making a grand total of carlots, less-than-carlots, and truck receipts equivalent to 17,008 carloads. In 1920, the population of Newark was about 415,000.

9b. MARKETING OF CALIFORNIA CITRUS FRUITS.

Dept. Bulletin No. 1237, "Organization and Development of a Cooperative Citrus-Fruit Marketing Agency," has just come from the press. The authors are A. W. McKay and W. Mackenzie Stevens. Until a few years ago, Mr. Stevens was on the staff of the F. & V. Division. He has since been connected with the Division of Agricultural Cooperation, in which Mr. McKay is a Specialist. This bulletin of 66 pages is a comprehensive study of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange and similar organizations.

B. C. Boree,
Investigator in Market Surveys

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARSH SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CHARLESTON, S. C. ** Chamber of Commerce	858	W. J. Bentish	Cabbage * Potatoes	May 1 May 26	May 23 * June 14
MOBILE, ALA. ** Custom House	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 12 May 17	May 31 June 25 June 25
RALPH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.,	805	R. H. Shoemaker	Berries * Lettuce	May 6 May 15	May 26 * June 1
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.,	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 6	June 4
MONROE, MO. 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.,	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 19	June 14
SPAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 23	July 12
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	G. D. Clark	Berries	May 26	June 10
OCALA, FLA. **	832	F. H. Scruggs	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 27 May 28 June 6	June 28 June 28 June 28
MACON, GA. **	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 15
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Lamb	Carrots Cabbage Tomatoes	May 29 May 29 June 2	June 11 June 11 June 30

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 5	June 28
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 9	June 30

The following station closed on date indicated:

RIPLEY, TENN.	806	R. E. Lamb	Berries	May 12	Closed May 26
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* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) to Indiana for
G. A. DeHaven) inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. REPORT REVERSAIS BY TELEGRAPH.

Until further orders, every Inspector who reverses a certificate on appeal should wire the Washington office that night, giving the State of origin, the car number, and the reason for reversal. This is especially important during the summer, when many shipping-point inspection deals are being handled which have but a short season. If any Inspector at shipping point is going wrong, we wish to be able to telegraph his Supervisor immediately, notifying him of the reversal and giving the reasons, so that the local inspector may be corrected promptly.

2c. INSPECTION REPORT FROM CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

On May 26, J. A. Marks advised that 22 cars of strawberries were inspected at shipping points last week, making a total of 25 to that date. Rains had interfered with picking, and movement had not reached the expected volume. Mr. Marks thinks the crop is much lighter than was estimated. He reports that most of the inspected cars have been going through in good shape, and receivers generally were pleased with the stock. On any cars against which a complaint was filed in the terminal market, he planned to request Government inspection at destination.

3c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AT FLORIDA SHIPPING POINTS.

Inspections made in Florida from May 1 to 15 inclusive were as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Products.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Arcadia.....	2	Potatoes.....	676
Fort Myers.....	30	Tomatoes.....	176
Homestead.....	1*	Celery.....	10
Hastings.....	676	TOTAL.....	862
Okeechobee.....	43	Grapefruit.....	52
Palmetto.....	131	Oranges.....	43
Sanford.....	10	Citrus.....	2
Winter Haven.....	66	TOTAL.....	97
TOTAL.....	959		959

*Delayed report from first half of April.

In the Division Letter for May 16, Par. 6c, inspections for the second half of April were tabulated. Grand total this season to the end of April was given as 6,430. By adding the 959 cars inspected during the first half of May, the total to May 15 is 7,389 cars. The daily average had increased from 47 to 74 cars. Total vegetables inspected since the beginning of this service last November are 5,420 cars, and total citrus fruits 1,969 cars.

Comparison of inspections by sections from Nov. 12, 1923, to May 15, 1924, is as follows:

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>	<u>Section.</u>	<u>Cars.</u>
Sanford.....	1542	Clearwater.....	365
Palmetto.....	1285	Orlando.....	325
Homestead.....	1234	Leesburg.....	224
Hastings.....	1134	Arcadia.....	33
Winter Haven...	658	Okeechobee.....	45
Fort Myers.....	544	Total.....	7389

4c. VIRGINIA APPROVES APPLE GRADES.

United States barreled apple grades were approved at the meeting held at Harrisonburg, Va., on Monday, attended by H. W. Samson, representative growers and shippers, members of the Virginia State Horticultural Society, the Division of Markets, and the State Extension Service. Mr. Samson reports that the discussions brought out the fact that a number of large growers used the Federal grades last year and found them very practicable for shipping purposes. Preliminary plans were made at the meeting for more extensive use of Federal-State shipping-point inspection this season.

5c. TENTATIVE GRADES FOR TABLE AND JUICE GRAPES.

Grades for table and juice grapes have been issued in tentative form by Mr. Samson's project. These grades were formulated at a meeting of California shippers recently held in San Francisco at the call of the State Department of Agriculture. Mr. Samson assisted in drawing up the specifications.

Last year the joint shipping-point inspection service certified the condition of 26,442 carloads of grapes, on the basis of the California State grades. This work brought out the necessity of extensive revision of the specifications and the desirability of having the grades recognized as Federal standards.

6c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN SHAFTER DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA.

The following article was submitted by G. C. Henny, of Mr. Allewelt's office at Sacramento:-

"A meeting of the potato growers of the Shafter district was held on May 20, when grades and grading were discussed in detail by S. S. Rogers, of the California Department of Agriculture. It was the consensus that all the potatoes to be shipped from this district will be put out under United States grades and officially inspected. Movement will start the last week of May, continuing during June.

"From past experience, it was found practically impossible to sell the potatoes advantageously unless they were graded, and during the last three years practically the entire output has been inspected. It is estimated that from 800 to 1,000 cars will move during the next six weeks, and, from the appearance of the crops in the field, the quality should be above average. From present indications, a large percentage of the crop will be marketed in the Middle West and South, instead of in the Northwest as usual."

Writing on the same subject from Los Angeles on May 23, H. A. Harris tells of the trip he made with one of the shippers by automobile to the Shafter district in Kern County on Tuesday of last week. They were able to make a fairly complete survey of this potato section, examining fields and talking with growers and other interested factors. At the meeting of the Shafter Potato Growers' Association that night, after Mr. Rogers had discussed inspection, Mr. Harris was called on to explain the News Service. Arrangements were made to send the Association a daily wire, giving the whole potato market report in abridged form. Many growers asked for the mimeographed reports:

In addition to potatoes, this district has considerable land planted to vineyards, as well as apricots, pears, peaches, tomatoes, peppers, olives and citrus fruits. Potatoes and grapes are the principal crops grown for distant shipment, as most of the other products are consumed locally or go to Los Angeles by truck.

7c. SHIPPERS USING FEDERAL-STATE INSPECTION IN SOUTH CAROLINA..

W. V. Stephens, supervising shipping-point inspection work in South Carolina, advises that the following organizations are using the service in the Charleston-Meggett district:

<u>SHIPPERS.</u>	<u>BRANDS.</u>	<u>SHIPPING POINT.</u>
Atlantic Coast Distributors,	"Red Arrow- A C D"	Charleston.
American Fruit Growers,	"Blue Goose"	Charleston.
Wellbrook Exchange,	"Blue Top"	Charleston.
S. C. Produce Association,	"Palmetto Brand"	Meggett.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge, F. & V. Division.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb was in Baton Rouge on Wednesday, and left that night for Nashville, Ark., where he will look into the possibilities for shipping-point inspection of peaches. He planned to take leave for a day or two at Springdale, Ark., and probably will return via Kansas City to reach Washington by June 7. He advised from Crystal Springs, Miss., that there will be a large volume of tomatoes to be inspected in that district.

O. N. Harsha, who handled inspection of strawberries at Beebe, Ark., has now gone to Crystal Springs, where he will assist F. S. Kinsey in supervising tomato inspections during the month of June.

K. S. Branch is now in charge of the Kansas City office of the Inspection Service. Neal D. Sanborn, who substituted in that city, returned to his headquarters in Denver, and has been sent by the State of Colorado to Brawley, Calif. where he will assist with cantaloupe inspection work.

A. E. Mercker has gone from Hastings, Fla., and can now be reached in care of the State Division of Markets, Agricultural Building, Raleigh, N. C. He will supervise shipping-point work in North Carolina.

Hotel Macon is Robert Bier's correct address in Macon, Ga., instead of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, as previously announced.

C. D. Shirley is still inspecting onions at Aberton, Texas, and probably will remain there until June 7, after which he will take a few days' leave in San Antonio. He advises that onion inspections have reached a total of 1,100 cars.

Having substituted for R. A. Smith at Memphis, during the latter's vacation, M. C. Gregory will now report for duty in Pittsburgh, to help with inspection work. Wm. E. Lewis, who has been assisting temporarily in Pittsburgh, returns to the Washington office early next week.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., has been authorized to proceed from Palmetto, Fla., to Macon, Ga., and then will go to Jackson, Miss., to assist with shipping-point inspections in that State. He expects to reach Mississippi some time next week.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A rush of inspections of Florida potatoes in Philadelphia made it necessary for N. C. Farnworth to go from the Washington office to help with that work. S. F. Shreve, Baltimore Inspector, has been spending afternoons in Washington, to take care of inspections in this city during Mr. Farnworth's temporary absence.

W. H. Mosier went from Asherton, Texas, to Jopsonia, Ark., to relieve R. L. Sutton of the market reporting in that district. Mr. Sutton has gone to Elizabeth City, N. C., to issue reports on potatoes.

Lettuce, Strawberries and Garlic are covered in a special crop and market report written by C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, under date of May 7. This was mimeographed in Washington during the past week and distribution made to all offices thought to be interested. The report contains a lot of valuable information.

Market reports on carrots and cabbage are being issued at the Crystal Springs, Miss., field station for about two weeks. Interested growers and shippers are assisting in financing these special reports, which are supplemental to the regular bulletins on tomatoes.

Dr. G. K. K. Link, Pathologist of B.P.I., who is located in Chicago and who has been assisting in the training of inspectors, expects to leave Government service about July 1, to accept a place on the staff of Chicago University. He will continue there his pathological work on vegetables, and still will help with the training of new inspectors, who likely will attend his special lectures at the University instead of receiving this instruction in our Bureau offices, where we have no laboratory under the new space arrangements.

Watermelon market reports for Texas will be issued on the same plan as last season. J. Austen Hunter, of the Austin office, will handle the reports for South Texas growers and shippers, and later in the season W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, will issue bulletins for interested parties in North Texas.

Miss Lucy Watt, of the Market News section in Washington, has gone on 10 days' leave to her home in Greensburg, Pa. Wiseing of market wires is being handled by Mr. Clay and Mr. Martin.

After seven weeks' work in Boston, auditing the accounts of a prominent wool dealer, H. V. DeMott is expected back at his desk in Washington this Saturday. En route from Boston, he stopped off in New York for two days' leave.

H. T. Longino, formerly in charge of the Houston office of the Inspection Service, has gone to Jacksonville, Texas, to supervise shipping-point work on tomatoes.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

P. D. Rupert, who has been inspecting tomatoes in the Okeechobee section of Florida, will go to Stuart, Fla., within the next few days, to handle pineapple inspections. E. E. Conklin, Jr., visited that territory the middle of the week, and advises that the first car of pineapples was shipped on May 28. Movement is expected to become heavy next week. Mr. Conklin also stopped at Ocala on his way back to Macon, Ga., which latter place (Macon) will now be his headquarters.

The next two issues of the Division Letter will be edited by Mrs. D. K. Dick, of Mr. Fiske's section. Mr. Froehlich will be on leave from June 5 to 14, part of which time he will spend (with Mrs. Froehlich) at the 20th anniversary reunion of the Class of 1904 at Gettysburg College. This organization has the unique record of having issued an annual Class bulletin, of 50 to 70 pages, for 21 consecutive years. Mr. Froehlich is the present editor of this class paper.

10b. IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE.

The following wire was received from C. E. Schultz, at Brawley, too late to be included on the Market News page. It is dated May 30;-

"Imperial movement week earlier than normal. First express cars 19th. Cool nights retarding ripening first two weeks. Eight hundred cars shipped to May 30th. Crown set heavy; running heavy to ponys. Indications succeeding melons good size, good quality. Vines in excellent condition. Acreage now estimated slightly over 30,000. First peak expected about June 5th. Rigid inspection safeguarding against immature shipments. Railroad facilities well organized to handle situation. No prospects car shortage in near future. Distribution meetings as in former seasons. Heavy rain in parts of district may change situation. Will advise."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 23

June 6, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVANCEMENT IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE WORK.

Within the past few weeks, a number of letters have been received from college students and from some professors expressing an interest in shipping-point inspection work. Many of these men are available for the vacation season only, but a number are seniors who will be graduated this month and who, if they become interested in the work, may be applicants for permanent positions.

We have learned of one or two instances in which college professors and State officials have advised young men against entering the work of this Division, particularly the Inspection Service, because they could not see "that it offered any future." Everyone in the Division ought to realize how erroneous this is. I venture to say that the college graduates who have come directly into the service of this Bureau have, as a group, advanced much more rapidly in salary than the average of those who have sought other employment. They have also had exceptional opportunities to extend their acquaintance with the fruit and produce industry and with the country as a whole. We have had a market within our own organization for all the executive ability which we could develop and the end is not yet. Every member of the force ought to be a recruiting agent to the extent of encouraging every desirable young man to take our examination and, if practicable, to secure some preliminary training as a licensed shipping-point inspector. If any man in the service feels that he is not earning what his job is worth, that he would be better off if he had not entered the service, that he sees no future in our organization, I hope that he will write us a letter and give us an opportunity to help him correct his viewpoint.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,

Specialist in Charge, F. & V. Division.

2a. IN CROPS AND MARKETS FOR MAY 31.

Material of interest to fruit and vegetable men appeared in Crops and Markets of May 31 as follows:

- Page 341 - Special paragraph on potatoes in weekly review.
- 342 - Iceberg lettuce from South Carolina (filler).
- 343 - Low Returns for Texas Onions, - by A. E. Prugh.
 - Potato Deal Closes in North Florida, - by F. H. Scruggs.
 - Grades for table and juice grapes (filler).
- 347 - North Carolina Lettuce Delayed, - by V. D. Callanan.
- 348 - Shipping-Point Inspection Service Extended (filler).
- 349 - Proportion of apple crop marketed (filler).
- 352 - Exports of fresh and dried apples; prunes, apricots and raisins from U.S., July 1 to April 30, 1922-23 and 1923-24.
 - German Demand for American Apples.

Division Letter, June 6, 1924

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF LARSEN NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail Dist.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CHARLESTON, S.C. ** Chamber of Commerce	856	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage * Potatoes	May 1 May 26	May 23 June 14
MOBILE, ALA. ** Custom House	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage * Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 12 May 17	June 5 June 25 June 25
RALEIGH, N.C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	R. E. Shoemaker	Berries * Lettuce * S. Beans Potatoes Cucumbers Dewberries	May 6 May 15 June 2 June 5 June 5 June 5	May 26 June 2 * June 20 June 25 June 30 June 30
MONTE, MO. 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.,	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 19	June 14
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 23	July 12
OCALA, FLA. ** Post office Bldg.	832	F. H. Scruggs	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 27 May 28 June 6	June 28 June 28 June 28
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 15
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Ellis House	809	R. E. Lamb	Carrots Cabbage Tomatoes	May 29 June 2 June 2	June 11 June 11 June 30

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 6	June 28
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. E. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 9	June 30
PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	G. E. Prince	Cants.	July 1	July 25

The following stations closed on date indicated:

JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.,	856	W. E. Mosier	Berries	May 6	Closed June 4
BOWLING GREEN, KY. Moorehead Hotel Bldg.,	859	G. D. Clark	Berries	May 26	June 6

* Report discontinued. ** State Department cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) to Florida for
G. A. DeHaven	
) inspection work.	

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. CHANGES IN LOCATION IN MISSISSIPPI:

A wire from Mr. Kinsey, dated June 5, at Utica, Miss., gives the following changes in assignments.

- J. C. Townsend, Jr., supervising Natchez to Raymond; present headquarters Fayette.
- L. G. C. Peirce, supervising at Hazlehurst.
- O. N. Harsha, Crystal Springs.
- J. H. Hoover, who is in charge in La., also handles Simpson and Lawrence Counties and the town of Florence, Miss.
- G. W. Winfrey probably will remain at Crystal Springs, supervising clerical and fiscal matters and assisting with the afternoon rush of inspections.

Mr. Kinsey states that about fifteen inspectors and fifteen helpers will be needed at Crystal Springs alone. Mr. Kinsey's headquarters are at Crystal Springs, instead of Jackson, for the remainder of the tomato-shipping season.

2c. INSPECTION OF GEORGIA PEACHES:

Robert Bier reports by wire (June 3) that he expects to inspect 8,000 cars of peaches within the next eight weeks. He had sixty men hired at that time and would need about twenty more. The force at Mobile under Mr. Strauss will be given a change to transfer to Mr. Bier next week.

3c. CANTALOUPE GRADES AND SHIPPING POINT CIRCULAR:

Cantaloupe grades, which have been revised to some extent, will be sent under separate cover within the next few days to all inspectors.

A cantaloupe shipping-point inspection circular recently issued by the California service contains detailed instructions for making the maturity test for cantaloupes by means of the Brix hydrometer as used in California. Inspectors who wish a copy of this circular may obtain it by addressing W. F. Allewelt, Chief, Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, 1015 L St., Sacramento, Calif.

4c. SIMPLIFIED LISTS OF SHIPPING POINT INSPECTIONS.

Beginning with today; we are simplifying the form of the mimeographed lists showing cars inspected at shipping points by eliminating what are believed to be unnecessary sub-headings and notes of explanation. Inasmuch as the reference marks always carry the same meaning, the explanation will be stated only at the top of the sheet. A little more space than usual is allowed between the lists for each State in order to make it possible to add car numbers after the stencil has been cut, to report those shown on copies of certificates received in Washington late in the afternoon. These additions will be made in the proper columns, but may not appear close to the previous entry - to do so would endanger tearing the stencil by turning it back in the typewriter. As far as practicable, the car numbers shown on all certificates received, until the preparation of the lists has been completed for the day, will be included. Receiving point inspectors are requested to advise whether this simplified form causes any inconvenience. If the new form is satisfactory, it will save considerable work here.

OFFICE NOTES:

John W. Howard, of Macon, Ga., has been appointed as an assistant marketing specialist and reports for duty at Macon, Ga., June 16. He will assist with the inspection work on peaches. Mr. Howard was employed by a produce company in Macon as shipping clerk from 1907 to 1910, when he became general manager of the same concern. In 1917, he engaged in buying and selling fruits and vegetables, and in 1922, he was employed by the Georgia Fruit Exchange at Atlanta, as inspector.

Among recent visitors to the Washington office was F. M. Lyle, of New Haven, Conn., who was on annual leave the latter part of the week. Miss Frances Myers, of the Chicago office, was in Washington on Tuesday. En route to Elizabeth City, N.C., R. L. Sutton stopped in Washington Monday. E. D. Mallison, a new appointee in the market news service, reported for duty in Washington Monday.

R. C. Rose, of the Cincinnati inspection service continues ill. He may be unable to return to duty for several weeks.

N. C. Farnworth and Wm. E. Lewis have both returned to the Washington office. Mr. Farnworth assisted with inspections during a rush of work in Philadelphia, and Mr. Lewis, who went first to Buffalo to help on the reinspection of onions, went later to Rochester and Syracuse. During the last few days, there were heavy arrivals of cucumbers, tomatoes and strawberries in Pittsburgh, and Mr. Lewis assisted with the work in that city.

In the interests of standard containers, H. A. Spilman will leave Washington Sunday night for a trip which will include the Pacific Coast, Utah, Colorado and Idaho. He expects to be gone several weeks.

H. W. Samson is on annual leave at Sioux City, Iowa. He left Washington Wednesday, and will return about Tuesday, June 10. F. G. Robb probably will return to Washington June 8 or 9. He expects to be in Pittsburgh Friday and Saturday.

Announcement of the resignation of C. L. Brown is made with regret. He went to New York City a few weeks ago, to assume temporary charge of the market reporting work, and expects to leave about June 15 to take a position with a commercial news service opening a branch office in New York. One feature of this new work will be an auction-reporting service. Mr. Brown was appointed to the Market News project in October, 1920, and has had assignments in Chicago and Los Angeles, in addition to handling numerous field stations. Perhaps his most notable service has been rendered at Rochester during the last two seasons. Mr. Brown wrote a number of valuable field summaries, and has contributed many articles to "Crops and Markets" and other publications. Our best wishes accompany him in his new field of endeavor.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued)

A. S. Mason, of San Diego, has been reinstated in the Inspection Service and reported for duty at Atlanta, Ga., this week. He then went to the peach district of central Georgia to assist with shipping-point inspection work on this crop. It will be remembered that Mr. Mason was Navy Inspector at San Diego until his resignation exactly one year ago, and that he since has been associated with the San Diego Fruit and Produce Company.

J. Wm. Park, who has been in charge of the seed loan work in New Mexico, expects to leave Albuquerque about June 10. He will visit some of the western truck-crop sections in the interest of the Division of Crop Estimates before returning to Washington.

To fill the New York assignment temporarily, R. E. Shoemaker will leave Raleigh, N.C., reaching New York about the 10th or 11th of June. R. H. Lamb will proceed from Crystal Springs June 7, to take charge of the work at Raleigh, and G. D. Clark, after closing the office at Bowling Green, Ky., will go to Crystal Springs, arriving there Sunday.

M. C. Gregory reported Monday, June 2, in Pittsburgh, after having relieved R. A. Smith at Memphis.

E. W. Stillwell will remain at Macon longer than originally planned in order to assist Mr. Bier for a week or so in getting shipping-point inspection of peaches organized. His address there will be Hotel Macon.

It is expected that J. A. Marks will finish the inspection of strawberries in East Tennessee about the 7th of June and will report to Mr. Bier in Macon June 10.

Elwood A. Harrison, clerk in the Los Angeles office, has tendered his resignation effective June 14. Mr. Harrison was transferred from the Chicago office of the Division. Because of ill health, Mrs. Elizabeth White wishes to resign her position as clerk in the Cleveland office, and will leave as soon as her successor is found.

F. M. Patton left Washington Thursday afternoon for Macon, Ga., and will arrive there Friday evening or Saturday morning. He will assist Mr. Callanan in lining up railroad reports and destination information on Georgia peaches.

How do you like a short Division Letter?

5c. ACREAGE AND SHIPMENTS OF NORTH CAROLINA DEWBERRIES:

The following estimate of acreage and carlot shipments for North Carolina dewberries has just been received from the North Carolina Division of Markets:

Stations	Acres	Cars	Stations	Acres	Cars
Sanford	75	20	Southern Pines	70	20
Cameron	520	150	Hoffran	85	20
Lemon Springs	40	8	Hamlet	185	60
Vass	80	25	Laurinburg	75	20
Lakeview	25	5	State	1,135	328

(H. C.) Teague, who forwards this summary, adds that there may be smaller acreages in other sections, and that the total from the State may go as high as 350 cars. First carlot shipments were expected from Hamlet June 6. First pickings there were made on June 3. Movement from the district north of Hamlet will begin next week.

6c. MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CARLOT UNLOADS IN ATLANTA:

A mimeographed sheet issued from the Atlanta office shows carlot unloads during the month of May, discussing decreases, sources of supply and other interesting features, with a table of unloads for the first five months of this year.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,

Specialist in Charge, F. & V. Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 24
June 15, 1934.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. STRAWBERRIES TRUCKED-IN TO PHILADELPHIA.

A letter of June 4 from J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, described the marketing of strawberries in that city:

"Large Eastern Shore strawberries are coming in by truck each day. There are several shippers who haul daily from Fruitland, Salisbury and East New Market, Md., and Selbyville and Georgetown, Del. Some strawberries have been trucked from Accomac County, Va. Because of the good roads, the berries arrive in better condition than those sent by rail. Further, they arrive early in the morning and in many cases are sold before express and freight arrivals are delivered. Berries trucked in have sold as much as \$1 per crate higher than express stock. I checked up on this a little yesterday morning and found that at least 4,000 crates had been hauled in from Delaware and Maryland alone. One firm took 20 truckloads amounting to over 1,300 crates. Most of the trucks are Fords, using pneumatic tires, and the average charge from points in lower Maryland and Delaware is 75¢ per crate."

2a. TRUCK GARDENING NEAR PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. Scott adds that heavy rains have held back market gardens in the section. New Jersey strawberries were coming in slowly, a few crates each day; the berries, however, are wet and soft. Some farmers were reported to have planted their beans as many as three times, each lot having decayed in the ground. One grower said that damp weather had caused the blossoms on his tomato plants to rot and fall off.

3a. OILED WRAPS FOR NEW JERSEY APPLES:

Interest in oiled wraps for their apples has been noted among New Jersey growers by Mr. Scott, who has been asked to get an estimate on the cost and extra labor involved. He thinks these growers plan to wrap apples for bushel baskets and hampers, if feasible. Mr. Scott continues with a description of the apple industry near Philadelphia, which, he says, is increasing each year:

"One grower who operates a cold storage plant in New Jersey and is a commission man also, says that his concern handled 300 cars of apples and still had almost 100 cars left to be sold. Some growers are building small cold storage plants on their farms for their own and their neighbors' use. In another season like the past one, nearby stock will have to be reckoned with by speculators who are buying other apples and storing them for sale in Philadelphia. There are several local storage plants within a two-hour trucking distance. The apples are stored in bushel baskets and hampers but many are repacked in five-eighths bushel baskets before marketing. In repacking, all decayed stock is thrown out, and consequently, five-eighths baskets are preferred to boxes and barrels, selling proportionately higher. Fancy Romes now are selling as high as \$2 per five-eighths basket. Romes are higher than other apples now because they do not scald so readily."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. CHICAGO POTATO MARKET IMPROVES:

On June 7, W. H. Hall described conditions on the Chicago market as follows:

"It looks as though the old potato deal will end satisfactorily, as prices are at high point of the season. The weather has been unusually favorable, not warm enough to cause sprouting, and the supply of new stock has been light enough and increased gradually enough for the trade to absorb it easily along with the old stock. Receipts of old potatoes during the past three weeks were much less than might be expected, particularly of Wisconsin stock. Operators attribute this to the unusually good demand from the Southwest. Today Michigan and Wisconsin sacked round whites sold at \$1.70-\$1.85, while the best new Bliss Triumphs brought \$2.60-\$2.75 per 100 pounds. The difference in price between old and new is much less than usual at this time of the year, the quality of the old stock being exceptionally good."

2b. FIRST CAR OF FLORIDA WATERMELONS IN CHICAGO:

Mr. Hall continues:

"While there have been a few cars of Mexican melons on the Chicago market, the first car of Floridas arrived yesterday, selling at \$900. It was a car of 24-pound average Tom Watsons. Owing to continued cool weather, there is a very limited demand for this product."

3b. MATERIAL FOR CROPS AND MARKETS:

This week several excellent field stories were received. In order to use as many as possible in early issues of Crops and Markets, so that the information they contain may be timely, it was necessary to cut them considerably. In spite of space limitations, we want as many field stories as you can write; and beginning next week, our section of Crops and Markets will be given another page.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS

Although Saturday half-holidays do not officially begin until the middle of the month, because this Saturday is Flag Day and also because it comes so near the middle of June, permission has been granted for everyone to be excused who can be spared from their work by one o'clock. This applies both to Washington and the field.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CHARLESTON, S. C.** Chamber of Commerce	858	W. J. Perlish	Cabbage * Potatoes	May 1 May 26	May 23* June 14
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	984	J. D. Evers	Cabbage* Potatoes Squash* Cucumbers*	Apr. 30 May 12 May 17	June 5* June 25 June 7*
RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans Potatoes Cucumbers Dewberries	May 6 May 15 June 2 June 6 June 5 June 5	May 26* June 2* June 20 June 25 June 30 June 30
MONETT, MO. 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 19	June 13
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlock Hotel	808	G. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 23	July 12
OCALA, FLA. ** Post Office Bldg.	832	F. H. Scruggs	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 27 May 28 June 6	June 28 June 12* June 28
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 15
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Ellis House	809	G. D. Clark	Carrots Cabbage Tomatoes	May 29 June 2 June 2	June 7* June 7* June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 7	June 28
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 10	June 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	G. E. Prince	Cants.	July 1	July 25
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* Report discontinued. ** State Department cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson) to Florida for
G. A. DeHaven) inspection work.
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SHIPPING POINT AND RECEIVING POINT CERTIFICATES MUST BE MORE DEFINITE:

We note an increased tendency on the part of some shipping point and receiving point inspectors to use indefinite statements such as "approximately 15% blemishes." The use of the term "approximately" is permissible only when conditions are irregular and the variation in different packages is more than 10%. And furthermore, it should never be used except in connection with the range of defects. It should never be used in percentages which are close to the tolerance. The certificate must show definitely whether the product is "in" grade or "out" of grade. Such statements as "approximately 10% defects" in the case of a product for which the grade tolerance is 10% raises the question whether the defects were just over or just under the tolerance. In a case which came to our attention recently the statement was made that "approximately 10% of the heads of cabbage were soft." Later statement to the effect that there were "occasional (less than 2%) of burst heads" raised the question as to whether the car was really in grade as stated or whether the defects totaled more than 10%, which would have thrown the car out of grade. A certificate must leave no doubt in the mind of the reader on such points. All supervisors should give strict attention to certificates prepared under their direction to see that they are specific in this connection.

2c. ANNOUNCEMENT:

Dr. G. K. K. Link, who has accepted a position with the University of Chicago, has made arrangements by which his connection with the Department will be continued and his services will be available for the instruction of new inspectors in pathology and one-quarter of each year will be devoted to the pathological problems of importance to the Inspection Service.

3c. TOMATOES AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI:

O. N. Harsha, who is inspecting tomatoes at Crystal Springs, wrote under date of June 8 as follows:

"The tomato season at Crystal Springs and vicinity is about one week late, and since all spraying is over, there is developing what is apparently a second brood of worms in the fields.... There is considerable difference of opinion regarding the extent of damage, but local estimates are for 10% to 25% lighter tonnage than was at first expected. The situation is similar, I imagine, to that of the pear crop in Colorado last year. The larva is on the tomatoes and the worm hatches out after the tomatoes have been picked and wrapped, frequently after the stock is loaded and the car rolling. An occasional tomato has been noticed already at the cars, showing minute worms not over 1/4 inch long, in the stem end basin of the tomato. They had not been alive long enough to eat into the flesh. It is probable that some cars will show worm damage and the situation may be of interest to market inspectors."

4c. SEND REINSPECTION CERTIFICATES TO SUPERVISOR IN CHARGE OF STATE:

F. W. Allewelt has requested that copies of reinspection certificates be sent to the Sacramento office rather than to the district in which the original inspection was made. This policy should be followed in sending reinspection certificates to all States. It gives the supervisor in charge an opportunity to check up on the work of various inspectors within the States and puts him in position to take the necessary steps to correct shipping-point errors.

5c. SHIPPING POINT INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA:

The following tabulation shows the number of cars inspected from May 16 to May 31 inclusive:

Arcadia Section:

Tomatoes.....3

Hastings Section:

Potatoes.....217

Ocala Section:

Tomatoes.....19

Okeechobee Section:

Tomatoes.....51

Palmetto Section:

Tomatoes.....129

Wauchula Section:

Beans.....25

Beans.....1

Cucumbers.....3

Total.....29

Winter Haven Section:

Grapefruit.....18

Oranges.....17

Total.....35

Grand Total, May 16-31.....485

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS FOR SEASON 7,872

Classification of cars inspected May 16-31:

Citrus:

Cars

Grapefruit.....18

Oranges.....17

Total.....35

Vegetable:

Cars

Potatoes.....217

Cucumbers.....3

Tomatoes.....227

Beans.....1

Total.....448

TOTAL NUMBER OF CITRUS INSPECTIONS SINCE NOVEMBER 12.....2,004

TOTAL NUMBER OF VEGETABLE INSPECTIONS SINCE NOVEMBER 12.....5,868

GRAND TOTAL OF CARS INSPECTED.....7,872

COMPARISON OF INSPECTIONS BY SECTIONS FOR SEASON:

Sanford	1542	Arcadia	36	Fort Myers	544
Homestead	1234	Ocala	19	Orlando	325
Winter Haven	693	Palmetto	1414	Okeechobee	96
Clearwater	365	Hastings	1351	Wauchula	29
Leesburg	224				

6c. WEEKLY NEWS LETTER ISSUED IN GEORGIA:

Robert Eier is issuing a weekly news letter from the office at Macon, Ga., similar to the one published during the season in Florida. The following paragraph is copied from the first number (June 9) of this weekly letter:

"To date, weather conditions and general cultural practices of growers have been favorable to the production of good quality peaches throughout the entire section. The more progressive growers have thinned their crops, but there are many who have not and the result is a crop that in all probability will run to small sizes. Various factors in the industry are vitally interested in culling out as many of these small peaches as possible, believing that the markets are going to discount such sizes heavily.

"During the coming week, Uneddas will roll in heavy volume and inspectors should be especially careful in their interpretation of maturity. The temptation of the grower to ship green or immature fruit will be hard to resist. Again the variety itself has to be watched carefully because of its tendency to become soft quickly after it has reached the firm stage.

"A great many of the cars inspected the past week show brown rot, running from a trace to 8%. This combined with bruised peaches, those showing skin breaks, and those which are wormy, naturally do not make for a product which will carry well to the large markets." F.G. Robb, Specialist in Inspection.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1924.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspec- tions for Carriers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate copy Fees
Atlanta	17	14	31	23	3	2	\$ 116	\$5.00	\$ 4
Baltimore	16	16	32	51	5	0	132	5.00	2
Boston	190	118	308	121	-	46	1216	15.00	21
Buffalo	71	59	130	85	35	16	504	45.00	15
Chicago	62	107	169	235	-	0	672	20.00	32
Cincinnati	5	21	26	58	1	2	96	7.50	1
Cleveland	68	73	141	150	102	0	532	30.00	30
Columbus	78	25	103	80	-	7	408	2.50	1
Denver	18	9	27	8	2	0	100	5.00	0
Detroit	139	75	214	245	144	1	816	25.00	12
Erie	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Harrisburg	2	0	2	5	0	0	8	0	2
Indianapolis	9	18	27	46	0	0	100	5.00	2
Kansas City	24	43	67	89	10	0	256	7.50	11
Los Angeles	0	2	2	-	0	0	8	0	1
Memphis	6	9	15	22	6	0	60	0	0
Milwaukee	63	13	76	72	47	0	276	22.50	1
Minneapolis	9	33	42	35	0	0	160	10.00	0
New Haven	7	23	30	-	5	1	120	5.00	3
New Orleans	22	39	61	48	29	0	180	40.00	15
New York	264	411	675	423	108	12	2500	115.00	58
Norfolk	2	43	45	19	0	0	180	0	1
Omaha	8	6	14	18	1	0	56	0	1
Philadelphia	64	87	151	327	80	10	536	42.50	7
Pittsburgh	78	128	206	233	114	39	788	30.00	11
Portland	4	16	20	-	0	0	72	5.00	2
St. Louis	23	121	144	117	86	0	528	15.00	39
Washington	5	17	22	56	4	0	80	5.00	6
Wilkes-Barre	8	13	21	17	12	6	84	0	12
TOTAL	1262	1539	2801	2606	844	142	\$10584	\$462.50	\$290

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections...1262 Inspections for Carriers.... 844
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections1539 Declined for lack of time.... 142
 GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections...2801 Total Fees Assessed.... \$11513.50**

** Total fees assessed include. \$30.00 for mixed car fees, and \$147.00 for certificates issued to exporters by the New York office at \$1.00 each.

INSPECTION FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MAY, 1924

Symbols:

ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENTS POUNDS.

	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" made to comply with specifications	Items billed short-weight
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	N	N
BOSTON	139037		180		139217	317	0
	8675		0		8675	0	
NEW YORK	864590		82277		946867	4194	
	198806		94		198900	22	
NORFOLK	748618		220773		769391	0	0
	21715		718		22433	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	334244		17123		351367	2041	0
	19514		764		20278	23	0
SAN DIEGO	507058		28310		535368	414	0
	49870		12882		62752	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	109865		15540		125505	125	0
	0		0		0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	653790		33155		686945	184	0
	0		0		0	0	0
VALLEJO	166473		1351		167824	12	0
	39014		160		39174	00	0
TOTALS	3523675		198809		3722484	7287	0
	337594		14618		352212	45	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD.

NEW YORK	57558	2445	60003	0	0
NORFOLK	45240	0000	45240	0	0
TOTALS	102798	2445	105243	0	0

In addition to the above the New York office inspected for the U. S. Lines 301,636 lbs. of vegetables and 127,852 lbs. of fruit, totals 429,488, of which total 5,218 lbs. were rejected. For the Munson Line 62,029 lbs. of vegetables, and 14,518 lbs. of fruit, total 76,547.

The Norfolk office also inspected for the Navy, bread, fresh and cured meats, fish, oysters, clams, and ice cream to the amount of 75,226 lbs., of which 48 lbs. were rejected. 1,182 lbs. were also inspected for the Marines. 106,506 lbs. of fruits and vegetables were for Hampton Roads delivery.

The San Pedro office also inspected 12,348 lbs. of bread, 10,114 lbs. of butter and 1,947 lbs. of cheese for the Navy.

The Vallejo office also inspected 35,591 lbs. of bread for the Navy.

OFFICE NOTES:

CORRECTION: Baltimore was erroneously included in the list of offices using daylight saving time, which was published in The Division Letter of May 2. Standard time is in effect in Baltimore.

W. J. Bertush will close the Charleston, S. C., field station June 14 and will leave June 16 for Washington, when his services will be utilized in relieving market station men while they take annual leave.

From June 25 to July 11, V. G. Gibson will be on leave. R. S. Lumbard will leave Kansas City about June 23, relieving Mr. Gibson in St. Louis. After the close of the Monett, Mo., field station, A. E. Prugh will proceed to Kansas City. When Mr. Gibson returns, Mr. Lumbard will take his vacation before going to Kansas City again.

J. A. Marks arrived at Byron, Ga., June 7. This will be his headquarters for the present. Harry Duncan, of the New York State force, who has been assisting with shipping-point inspection of strawberries in Tennessee, drove from there to Georgia to work with Mr. Marks, arriving about June 10.

R. C. Lindstrom, of St. Louis, will proceed to Oklahoma on June 14. He will be in charge of the organization of inspection work in that State. Potatoes, cucumbers, peaches and cantaloupes will be inspected.

Dr. Lauritsen, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who has been giving special attention to the study of pathological problems incident to the storage of vegetables, expects to spend a few days in eastern markets studying the pathological features of the inspection service and rendering assistance to our inspectors wherever possible.

Last Tuesday, F. G. Robb ^{was} in Kansas City; in St. Louis Wednesday and Chicago Thursday. A day's leave was spent between Chicago and Pittsburgh, and on Monday, Mr. Robb returned to the Washington office.

E. D. Mallison has gone to Chicago, where he will assist with the Market News work.

W. E. Lewis is on leave at Providence, R. I. Upon his return to Washington, about June 20, he plans to visit points in Georgia and Florida for the purpose of studying the grading of watermelons.

A summary of the NEW YORK LETTUCE DEAL, SEASON 1923, by C. L. Brown, has been issued recently from the Washington office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A pith helmet, made in China, was recently presented to R. C. Butner by shipping-point inspectors at Coachella Valley, with the inscription: "To our esteemed friend R. C. Butner, from the Coachella Onion Specialists, Season of 1924." An artist in the group had decorated the helmet in this fashion, according to E. P. Lemott, of Chicago; "A thermometer registering 130 degrees extends from the brim to the peak of the hat. Mr. Butner stands beside it with a pair of field glasses, attempting to read the high temperature. The route from Los Angeles to the Mexican border is then pictured, leading through the grape country, the orange country, and the desert to Imperial Valley. Mr. Butner is sketched on the Mexican side smoking a ten-inch Mexican cigar. The hat bears the signature of each Inspector now in the Valley."

T. R. Hall will leave Chicago June 14 for Macon, Ga., where he will assist with the inspection of peaches.

7c. FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING EXPRESS CAR INITIALS.

Article 3c in D.L. 21, May 23, has been misunderstood by some inspectors. The letter "X" should not be added to initials which appear on any car unless it is found on the car. Distinction should also be made between cars such as Fruit Growers Express (FGE) and regular express cars such as are moved on passenger trains. In the case of true express cars, the statement "Express refrigerator" should always be made following the heading KIND OF CAR. When the initials of a railroad appear on an express car they should be given on the certificate in exactly the form in which they appear on the sides or ends of the car. If there are no initials, but the name of the express company appears on the side of the car, initials such as AREX for the American Railway Express Company should be used, likewise SEEX for the Southeastern Express Company. Some cars of the American Railway Express have the initials A R E. In such cases give the initials in exactly the form in which they appear on the car.

8c. CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 7.

Page 357 - Special paragraph on peaches in weekly review.

359 - Strawberry Marketing in the Ozarks, - by A. E. Prugh.

- Western Cantaloupe Movement Active, - by C. E. Schultz.

- Kentucky and North Tennessee Strawberries, - by G. D. Clark.

362 - New field stations (filler).

264 - Express rates for produce (filler).

268 - United States Export Trade in Prunes.

9c. GRADES FOR GRAPES.

Grades for table and juice grapes are being mailed to inspectors this week from the Washington office.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 25

June 20, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. SOLDIER BONUS.

IMPORTANT.

All offices are requested to advise immediately, marked for attention of Mrs. Mills, the names and addresses of employees in their respective offices who are entitled to the soldier bonus. Traveling field men should speak for themselves.

2a. PREPARATION OF EXPENSE ACCOUNTS.

In order to assist the Accounting Section in auditing expense vouchers, it is requested, in cases where subsistence expense is paid by a State or from local funds, that a statement showing the exact period covered by such payment be incorporated in the body of the account.

3a. TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS VOID AFTER JUNE 30.

As all Transportation Requests issued during the present fiscal year will become void on June 30, all unused Requests should be returned to Washington promptly after that date, marked for the attention of Mrs. Mills. New Letters of Authorization and Letters of Allotment, authorizing continuance of travel and providing for station expenses at market stations, have been drawn, effective July 1. Copies of these Letters, with Transportation Requests for use after June 30, will be mailed shortly.

As all expenditures during a fiscal year must be paid from funds appropriated by Congress for that year, it is highly desirable that all accounts be checked up carefully immediately after June 30 and vouchers forwarded without delay to cover any amounts due.

4a. FLORIDA MELON SHIPPERS IN DIFFICULTY.

Georgia has placed a quarantine on Florida watermelons packed in pine straw, as a preventive measure against the spread of cattle tick. Melon shipments of this character are not at present permitted to pass through the State of Georgia. Florida shippers doubtless will be obliged to use other kinds of straw or to load their melons in some other manner. The latest wire from Mr. Scruggs, at Ocala, advises that some melons are being loaded on imported straw. Railroads are receiving cars loaded any way, subject to delays in Georgia. Some shipments are going via River Junction, S.A.L. Ry., through Alabama.

5a. FIELD SALARIES WILL BE ADJUSTED.

Word has just been received from the Director of the Bureau of the Budget that all Bureaus of the Department are authorized to allocate sufficient funds from the regular appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1924, to cover during the six months ending December 31 such additional compensation (in lieu of the \$240 bonus) as Congress had intended before adjournment. A complete memorandum on this subject will be incorporated in the next issue of the B.A.E. News. Any temporary office not receiving that paper will be furnished a copy of the memorandum with the next Division Letter.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT GEORGIA PEACHES.

Peaches went forward from Georgia about as estimated by local factors during the first two weeks, although the number of carloads of Mayflowers was higher than the estimates. The Uneeda movement was reduced, mostly due to very heavy culling in an attempt to pack the fruit in accordance with U. S. grade No. 1 requirements.

Full details for handling the distribution of the crop had not been worked out when Mr. Stillwell left Georgia. Railroad schedules place cars in Potomac Yards and Cincinnati on the second evening after they are shipped, and diversions for such cars are handled by the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange about 6 P.M. on the second day.

Last week a representative of the Exchange and of the two selling agents of the Exchange, i.e., Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers and Gentile Bros. Company, met with Mr. Callanan and Mr. Stillwell and distributed unsold cars due to arrive in Potomac Yards on the night of the meeting. It was contemplated that the tentative distribution for the succeeding day's movement also would be outlined, in order to form a basis for selling. The Exchange is handling all diversions for the only large factor outside of its own organization, namely, A. J. Evans and the Standard Growers' Exchange, operating together. Mr. Evans has agreed to cooperate fully in any plan for distribution which is developed during the deal and, therefore, cars unsold by him will be distributed at the same time as unsold cars controlled by the Exchange.

Mr. Stambaugh has been sent from the Washington office to assist Mr. Callanan, as the additional work involved because of our assistance in distribution is quite heavy. It will take most of Mr. Callanan's time.

Reports are being watched very carefully, and the cooperation of market reporters in showing price ranges according to the condition and size of the stock has helped considerably in putting across the program of the Exchange for a better pack and grade. Supervising inspectors are finding the market news reports of considerable value in carrying on their work.

It was expected that Carmans would begin to move in volume the middle of this week, with Fileys, Georgia Belles, and Elbertas following in order at one-week intervals. The heaviest movement will be between June 25 and July 25, when from 8,000 to 10,000 cars may be shipped to market.

2b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 14:

- Page 374 - Special paragraph on watermelons in weekly review.
- 375 - Cucumbers in North Carolina, - by R. E. Shoemaker.
- North Carolina Snap Beans, - by R. E. Shoemaker.
- 376 - Potatoes in Southern California, - by E. A. Harris.
- Florida Watermelons Moving, - by F. E. Scruggs.
- Tomatoes Active in Ocala Section, - by F. H. Scruggs.
- Lettuce Returns Low in North Carolina, - by R. E. Shoemaker.
- Cabbage Season Ended in Alabama, - by J. D. Evers.
- Too Many Cucumbers, - by J. D. Evers.
- 380 - Apples from Australia for summer trade in U.S. (filler)
- Exports of vegetables from Cuba to U.S. (filler)
- 381 - Dewberry Market Season Starting, - by V. D. Callanan.
- 384 - Portuguese East Africa to Ship Citrus Fruits.

3b. LEASED WIRE TRAFFIC MUST BE RESTRICTED.

The traffic on the leased wires is so heavy that steps must be taken to prevent the transmission of market reports not needed by one or more market or field stations. Frequently a market station will request some particular report for some specific purpose and, when that purpose has been served, may neglect to advise Mr. Ten Eyck's office that it is no longer needed. Hereafter, all market stations must advise Washington immediately, whenever any report they have requested is no longer needed. If such report is then needed by no other office on that particular circuit, it will be discontinued. Similarly, no report from one circuit will be sent on another circuit unless there is a need for it. If this practice is strictly followed, traffic on the leased wire will be reduced to only the material needed and will be maintained on that basis.

4b. GEORGIA TOMATOES IN BALTIMORE.

A recent letter from W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office, tells of the receipt of a car of Georgia tomatoes in that city:

"First carlot shipment of Georgia tomatoes arrived in Baltimore on Wednesday, June 11. The stock was generally mature green, but of excellent quality and condition. Car sold at \$3.75 for fancys and \$2.75 for choice; stock was mostly fancy count. This is a new venture in Georgia. The seed was furnished by a Baltimore firm which was guaranteed against loss by the Board of Trade of Adams County, Georgia."

5b. WEEKLY REVIEW USED BY A.P.

The Associated Press representative in Atlanta, Ga., has been making good use of the Weekly Review of fruit and vegetable markets, furnished him by Mr. Curry. The review is given the A. P. man as soon as it is received over the leased wire. Excerpts are made, relating to products shipped from the Southeast, and these passages are released in the form of an interview with Mr. Curry. This gives the information an official stamp and also adds to its local interest. As published in the "Savannah Morning News," for example, the A.P. story covers more than 8 inches of space, including large-type headlines.

6b. BRAWLEY HOTEL BURNED DOWN.

The Dunlack Hotel, in which our Brawley field station was located, was burned down last Tuesday night. The Government records and equipment were saved and there was but slight damage to the mimeograph supplies. Mr. Schultz and Mr. Prince immediately transferred their headquarters to the Barbara Worth Hotel at El Centro, and will continue issuing market reports on cantaloupes from that point.

7b. REVIEW OF THE 1923-24 CARROT SEASON IN NEW YORK.

Just before resigning from the New York City market news work, C. L. Brown issued a two-page summary of the carrot season. S. W. Russell's name appears as co-author of this report. Weekly carlot arrivals, condition of the market, and jobbing prices on New York stock, as well as Texas and Mississippi carrots, are given by weeks for the period Sept. 1, 1923 to June 7, 1924. The reverse side of the sheet carries an excellent graph, showing the trend of prices this season and the preceding season.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans Potatoes Dewberries Cucumbers	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12	May 28* June 2* June 21 June 25 June 30 June 30
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz G. E. Prince	Cants.	May 23	July 12
OCALA, FLA. ** Post Office Bldg.	832	F. H. Scruggs	Tomatoes Cucumbers* W-melons	May 27 May 29 June 6	June 28 June 12* June 28
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 25
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Ellis House	809	G. D. Clark	Carrots* Cabbage* Tomatoes	May 31 May 31 June 4	June 7* June 7* June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. Chamber of Commerce	810	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 6	June 28
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS First Natl. Bank Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 10	July 5

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	G. E. Prince	Cants.	July 1	July 25
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	Unassigned	Potatoes	July 15	Aug. 23

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

CHARLESTON, S. C.** Chamber of Commerce	858	W. J. Bertush	Cabbage Potatoes	May 1 May 26	Closed May 24 June 14
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Potatoes Cucumbers	Apr. 30 May 12 May 17	June 5 June 18 June 7
MONETT, MO. 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.	857	A. E. Prugh	Berries	May 19	June 14

*Report discontinued. ** State Department cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson - on Florida inspection work. A.E. Prugh - in Kansas City office.
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office. W.J. Bertush)
R. H. Lamb) in Washington office

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. CHANGE IN SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.

On account of certain inequalities which have existed during the past year in the payment of subsistence expenses for field employees, some having been paid by States on the basis of actual expenses while others received per diem from the Federal Department, it has been decided that most of the letters issued for the coming year to field supervisors and inspectors engaged on shipping-point work will be on the basis of actual expenses. This will place those whose expenses are paid by the Federal Department and those paid by the State on the same basis.

2c. SPRING FREEZE IN MONTANA; OTHER FRUIT NEWS.

In a letter of June 14, L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho, advised: "We have just received news from Mr. Shovell, in Montana, that they had a ~~severe~~ freeze on June 6 that destroyed fully 80% of the apple crop in the Bitter Root Valley, as well as the sour cherries, strawberries and other small fruits. This is indeed a blow to them, after two years of hail.

"In the Lewiston section of Idaho, just prior to picking time, they had a rain that practically ruined the sweet cherry crop by causing the fruit to split. There will not be more than 8 cars of this crop shipped from the entire district. With the exception of the soft fruits from along the river, there will be practically nothing more to move from that territory until the Jonathans come on, although there may be some early potatoes before that time."

3c. LETTUCE SITUATION IN IDAHO.

L. G. Schultz, writing from Boise, Idaho, under date of June 14, says that the lettuce-packing houses in the Lewiston district have closed down for the season after shipping only 10 cars, most of which was of only ordinary quality. This was a keen disappointment, especially when it is realized that, with good growing weather, they would have shipped between 200 and 300 cars this spring. The remainder of Mr. Schultz' letter is quoted below, including a closing paragraph on early potatoes:-

"The only activity in this valley at the present time is the shipping of a few cars of lettuce, the quality of which is but fair. A large number of lots are usually placed in the same car, as there are no individual growers with sufficient tonnage to fill a car alone at one cutting. This makes a car of very irregular lettuce, for no two patches are of the same condition or quality this season. No attempt is being made to pack out the various grades separately, but all are mixed in the same crate and all that is given on the certificate in the way of a grade statement is the percentage of each grade in the car. The approximate average for the entire car is given instead of for each individual lot, as this would be impossible since the lots are so mixed up, being packed into the car in the order they are received at the warehouse. It was decided to allow this for the spring lettuce, since it was so very irregular and there would be no great amount of it shipped.

"The early potato crop is looking fine and, from all indications, will start in a small way about July 10 to 12. There will be no heavy movement until about the 25th, but it is expected that early digging will be the rule on account of the shortage of water which looks more serious each day."

4c. CALIFORNIA INSPECTION SERVICE.

Recent changes in the organization of the Federal-State inspection service in California include the following: E. J. Powell, formerly Supervising Inspector of the Northern California District, has been made Assistant State Supervisor. Under Mr. Allewelt's direction, Mr. Powell will spend most of his time in the field, to secure greater efficiency and uniformity in the handling of the various shipping-point deals in that State. H. W. Peterson, who had been stationed in Los Angeles, has been promoted to fill the position formerly held by Mr. Powell. Mr. Peterson's headquarters now are in Sacramento. H. F. Larson remains in Los Angeles as Supervising Inspector for Southern California, and C. H. Beasley, Supervising Inspector of Apple Standardization, continues his headquarters at Watsonville, with supervision of shipping-point inspection work in the Coast District.

Location of other California inspectors (so far as known in the Washington office) is given on the supplementary list attached to this Division Letter. Last season, more than 100 local inspectors worked under the direction of these supervisors. During the coming grape season, it is planned to establish temporary offices at Fresno, Lodi, Modesto, Santa Rosa, Napa, San Jose, Dinuba, Hanford, Merced, Visalia, Ontario, Madera and Delano.

Inspection service in California was organized in July, 1920. The first year 6,000 cars were inspected; the second year 13,000, and the third season 18,000 cars. Total for the present fiscal year, ending June 30, is expected to exceed 46,000 cars, or about 9,000 more than during the three previous years combined. The coming season doubtless will show further increases.

5c. PROPOSED SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS.

In the near future, it is expected that shipping-point inspection work will be started in the following districts: central Tennessee apples, with R.H. von Glahn in charge, at Franklin, Tenn.; Kaw Valley potatoes, with J.H. Hoover in charge at Topeka, Kans.; Delaware apples; Arizona cantaloupes; and Arkansas peaches from the Burt Johnson orchards. Mr. von Glahn had been assisting W.V. Stephens with inspections in South Carolina, and Mr. Hoover, who has been helping with tomato inspections at Crystal Springs, will leave Mississippi for Topeka, Kans., early next week. Straight Federal certificates will be issued on Kaw Valley potatoes.

6c. VARIOUS INSPECTION DEALS CLOSED.

The Mississippi tomato deal passed its peak the early part of this week, and inspection work around Crystal Springs probably will be discontinued this Saturday or the first part of next week, depending on weather and market conditions. J. C. Townsend, Jr., who has been supervising inspections at Fayette, Miss., will be transferred by Monday to the peach inspection work in Georgia.

R. M. Peterson is the only Federal supervisor remaining in Florida. Mr. Rupert, who was inspecting pineapples on the East Coast and Messrs. Behnke, DeHaven and Shaffer, who were located at Palmetto, have all gone to Georgia on the peach deal. F. E. Hooper, who was working on potatoes and other vegetables around Savannah, also is assisting with peach inspections at present. O. G. Strauss completed his inspection work in the Mobile district, and is now helping E. E. Conklin, Jr., with standardization work in the Georgia peach belt. W.V. Stephens finished at Charleston, S. C., and has now gone to Macon, Ga., to assist in the training of new inspectors. A complete list of latest addresses of shipping-point inspectors is attached to this Division Letter.

7c. REQUESTS BY SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS FOR RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The attention of all shipping-point supervisors is called to Par. 4c in the Division Letter for Nov. 8, 1923, in which we asked that definite distinction be made between requests for inspection for the information of the supervisor and requests for reinspection which really come from the shipper.

Our receiving-point inspectors have not always been advised the purpose of such requests. Please make it plain in your wire whether you are requesting the reinspection for the shipper, who will be billed for the charges, if any, or for your own information. In the latter case the report will be issued in an informal manner and the regular certificate will not be used. Regular reinspections requested by applicants will, of course, be issued on the usual certificate form.

8c. CORRECTION OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION TOTALS.

In the Division Letter for May 2, Par. 4c, total shipping-point inspections by States were given for the period July 1, 1923 to March 31, 1924. The Oregon total was in error. Instead of 118, as originally reported, Oregon should have been credited with 3,952 inspections. This is an increase of 3,834 and will make the total cooperative inspections in the 24 States 102,809, instead of 98,975. The grand total in 28 States included in the original report is now 104,719, instead of 100,885. It may be advisable to make all these corrections in your copy of the D.L. for May 2.

The following items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 2, which is issued for inspectors in the States of Washington and Oregon:

9c. PUGET SOUND LETTUCE BEING INSPECTED.

Each season finds the joint Federal-State inspection service requested in new localities. Among the new fields entered this season is the Puget Sound section of Washington, where probably 200 to 300 cars of head lettuce will be certified in King and Pierce Counties. On Memorial Day the first car of lettuce to carry a Federal certificate from western Washington rolled from Sumner. The car only partly met the requirements of U.S. No. 1, one grower's lot being badly infested with slugs which fed on the margins of the inner wrapper leaves and started the development of slimy soft rot. Even careful trimming and grading did not eliminate all of the affected heads; so the lot fell below grade.

10c. CHERRY INSPECTIONS IN THE DALLES SECTION.

On June 6, a certificate was issued on the first of 50 to 100 cars of cherries to be certified at The Dalles, Oregon, this season. The Dalles Cooperative Growers have requested inspection on all of their shipments, and it is probable that other factors will request inspection of cherries. Later in the season, the Growers wish certification of approximately 100 cars of watermelons and about 25 cars of miscellaneous soft fruits. Aside from a few cars of apples certified last season by County Fruit Inspector Kocken, of Hood River. The Dalles section is practically a new field for the shipping-point service.

The commercial cherry crop of The Dalles this season will be about 100 cars, of which approximately 60% are Royal Anne (Napoleon), 20% Bing, and 20% Lambert.

11c. RASPBERRIES TO BE INSPECTED IN PUYALLUP VALLEY.

About June 20, the inspection and certification of raspberries will begin at Puyallup and Sumner. These points are in the Puyallup Valley, which is famous for the quality of cane fruits produced there. Probably there is no crop certified by the Federal-State service which is more perishable than raspberries. It is the practice in the Puyallup Valley to grade the berries both on the basis of quality and condition. All of the poorer-quality stock, as well as the overripe stock, is diverted to the cannery, while the good-quality firm stock is segregated into various lots according to the possibility of shipping it to nearby markets, such as Seattle and Portland; to intermediate markets, such as Spokane and Montana points; or to distant markets such as Minneapolis and Chicago. In passing judgment on these various phases of quality and condition, our inspector will have a task requiring the utmost diligence.

Various authorities estimate the Puyallup Valley crop at 50% to 90% of normal; so it is not yet possible to make any estimate of the number of cars to be certified. The April freeze injured the young bearing canes, which will reduce the tonnage and will also result in some quantity of poor-quality berries, suitable only for cannery or jam stock.

An effort is being made to formulate grades for fresh raspberries and blackberries, which will be satisfactory to all the factors in the Puyallup Valley and will also be practical as a basis for certification. The grading of berries is well understood in the Valley and the methods used have been very successful in the past; the difficulty is encountered when an attempt is made to describe the recognized methods on paper, in the form of grade rules and regulations.

12c. PRECOOLING SYSTEMS EXTENSIVE IN NORTHWEST.

A steadily increasing interest is noted in the precooling of early fruits and vegetables in the Pacific Northwest. The lettuce crop of the Puget Sound Vegetable Growers' Association at Sumner is being precooled this year before packing. The Dalles Cooperative Growers' Association at The Dalles, Oregon, has made extensive improvements in the refrigerating equipment of the Association warehouse, and plans to load precooled cherries and other soft fruits without any contact with the outside air between the cooling room and the iced car. The Association also has installed an air circulating system in the precooling rooms, which is said to be the first of its type in the Northwest.

13c. GRADES FOR CANNERY PEARS.

Fletcher T. Fish, Inspector-in-Charge at Medford, Oregon is drafting cannery grades for Bartlett pears, for use in the Rogue River Valley the coming season. The grades will be useful in certifying shipments to canneries at San Francisco and other California points.

14c. CERTIFICATION REQUESTED ON OREGON RASPBERRIES.

The Berry Growers' Packing Company, of Gresham, Oregon, recently requested Federal certification of its red raspberry shipments, which will start moving about June 25.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb was in Rochester last Tuesday, conferring with New York apple growers and State officials regarding the interpretation of the grades for barreled apples and looking into the possibility of shipping-point inspection work on this fruit. B. D. Van Buren, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry, New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, as a leading factor in the conference was seeking information as to the desirability of changing the interpretation of the State law to require more color in standard A grade. A decision in the matter will be announced in the near future.

Mr. Stillwell returned to his desk on Monday morning, after a three-weeks' trip to southern field stations of the Market News Service, particularly Macon, Ga. A complete report of the Georgia peach situation is published on another page of this D.L.

Mr. Samson left on Wednesday morning for a short trip to Georgia. Today he is attending the annual meeting of the Southeast Peanut Association, at Atlanta, prepared to answer any questions that may arise concerning the Federal grades for peanuts. Before returning to Washington, Mr. Samson also will confer with Mr. Conklin, at Macon, regarding the standardization work on peaches. He may visit several peach shipping-points on this trip.

Among visitors to the Washington office this Thursday was Clarence E. Hix, Supt. of Transportation of the Seaboard Air Line, at Norfolk, Va. The S.A.L. consolidated reports of shipments are rendered from Mr. Hix' office, and a reciprocal arrangement was made whereby he will be furnished from Washington a brief daily report on the peach markets along the Atlantic seaboard and in Pittsburgh and Chicago.

Having finished onion inspections at Asherton, Texas, on June 7, C. D. Shirley took a short period of leave in San Antonio. It has been decided to close the San Antonio office for the summer, and Mr. Shirley will proceed at once to Chicago, where he will assist with terminal inspection work. E. J. Maynard, of the Chicago staff, expects to begin his annual leave next week, so that Mr. Shirley's services will be needed as a substitute.

Since closing the Charleston, S.C., field station last Saturday, W.J. Bertush has reported for temporary duty in the Washington office of the News Service. R. H. Lamb, now in charge of the market reporting work at Raleigh, N.C., also will come to Washington in a few days. J. D. Evers, who recently issued reports at Mobile, Ala., has proceeded to Raleigh, to relieve Mr. Lamb.

E. F. McKune, Supervising Inspector for Colorado, has gone from Denver to California, where he will make a two or three weeks' study of cantaloupe standardization and inspection, preparatory to the inauguration of a cantaloupe inspection service in his own State. While in California, Mr. McKune also will look into the grading and inspection of Iceberg lettuce.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

H. A. Spilman, of the Washington staff, has now reached Los Angeles on his western trip in the interest of package standardization.

Having been granted a three-months' furlough, Mrs. Mildred Story Colby of the Minneapolis office, will spend this time at Colfax, in Placer County, California.

Miss Edna Walker, assistant to Mr. Patton in Washington, is on a month's leave of absence, during which she will make a tour of the country to the Pacific Coast and return.

Since the withdrawal of D. S. Dilts from the New Jersey Bureau of Markets, Kenneth Hankinson has been appointed to Mr. Dilts' position and will be the State's representative in the supervision of future inspections at shipping points in New Jersey.

Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 2 was issued by F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, on June 12. It comprises six pages of interesting material. In addition to the usual news items, this Letter closes with the first installment of "Who's Who in the Northwestern Inspection Service." This is a series of short biographical sketches to help all the men in becoming better acquainted with each other.

SPECIAL NOTICE:- If you are one of the outside-of-Washington employees who has not yet returned the yellow-sheet questionnaire regarding our Division Letter, please submit it promptly. The large number of replies already received have furnished many interesting and useful suggestions. At an early date, there will be prepared a summary of all answers, without authors' names.

Shipping-point inspectors, who move quickly from one point to another, should advise Washington at once if they have not received the D. L. regularly.

FEDERAL AND COOPERATIVE MEN ENGAGED IN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

(subject to change)

FLORIDA:.....R. M. Peterson, Ocala, Fla.

6/20/24.

GEORGIA:.....Robt. Bier, 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.
C. H. Behnke, Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.
E. E. Conklin, Jr., 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.
G. A. DeHaven, Box 6, Montezuma, Ga.
T. R. Hall, Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.
F. E. Hooper, Box 6, Reynolds, Ga.
J. W. Howard, 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.
J. A. Marks, Byron, Ga.
A. S. Mason, Monticello, Ga.
P. D. Rupert, Thomaston, Ga.
B. E. Shaffer, Box 391, Marshallville, Ga.
W. V. Stephens, 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.
O. G. Strauss, 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.
J. C. Townsend, Jr., 310 Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.

NORTH CAROLINA:..A. E. Mercker, 312 Agricultural Bldg., Raleigh, N.C.

VIRGINIA:.....F. E. Parsons, 201 Southern Produce Bldg., Norfolk, Va.

MISSISSIPPI:.....F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.
O. N. Harsha, Crystal Springs, Miss.
L. G. Peirce, Hazlehurst, Miss.
G. W. Winfrey, Crystal Springs, Miss.

TENNESSEE:.....R. H. von Glahn, Franklin, Tenn.

KANSAS:.....J. H. Hoover, Topeka, Kans.

OKLAHOMA:.....R. C. Lindstrom, c/o State Market Commission, Okla.City.

TEXAS:.....H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas.

COLORADO:.....E. F. McKune, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
L. C. Archer, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
P. A. Cauble, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
G. W. Dyer, Delta, Colo.
F. A. Powell, Eagle, Colo.

CALIFORNIA:.....W. F. Allewelt, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
A. D. Atterbury, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
C. H. Beasley, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Watsonville, Calif.
F. C. Cadwallader, 285 Wholesale Terminal, Los Angeles, Calif.
H. F. Larson, 285 Wholesale Terminal, Los Angeles, Calif.
C. E. Linwood, Room 1, Ferry Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.
K. R. Nutting, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Sebastopol, Calif.
H. W. Peterson, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
E. J. Powell, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
S. S. Rogers, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
N. D. Sanborn, El Centro, Calif.

WASHINGTON:.....F. E. Bailey, 423 Federal Bldg., Spokane, Wash.
W. L. Close, Court House, Yakima, Wash.

IDAHO:.....L. G. Schultz, State Dept. of Agr., Boise, Idaho.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 26

June 27, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. INDEX TO VOLUME 4 OF DIVISION LETTER.

With this D.L. there is being sent to each technical employee a copy of the complete index to Volume 4, which is last year's volume of the D.L. Each office or individual that has a file of the Letters for 1923 should keep this index with the file, for convenient reference. It is the key to a vast fund of valuable information. In an index so comprehensive as this, it is difficult to avoid errors. All offices, therefore, are asked to report to Washington immediately, if any errors are discovered in page numbers or other data.

2a. VALUABLE REVIEW OF APPLE SEASON.

On pages 200 and 201 of the June Supplement to "Crops and Markets" will be found a valuable summary of the 1923-24 apple season to the end of May. Tables in this article cover production, cold-storage holdings, carlot shipments and jobbing prices. The summary is worthy of duplication in mimeographed form by branch offices in apple districts, and by field stations that may be opened in apple-shipping sections. The text can be mimeographed separately, or can be accompanied by the tables.

If this material is duplicated by any office, two things should be kept in mind: (1) The summary includes shipments, prices and storage holdings only through May. Total shipments for the season, for example, doubtless will reach the 140,000-car mark, or 5,000 more than shown in the summary. (2) Shipments are given, as usual, on the basis of cars. But Mr. Pailthorp has called attention to the fact that a western carload is much larger than the eastern load, and therefore many more western apples were shipped than eastern, although the shipment totals would indicate just the reverse. In using this summary, it would be advisable to star the eastern shipments and insert a footnote: "Cars averaging 175 barrels or 525 bushels each." The western shipments should be double-starred, with the footnote: "Cars averaging about 750 bushel boxes." Or a detailed explanation can be given to this effect: "Figuring 175 barrels or 525 bushels to each car of eastern apples, the 72,146 cars for the 1923-24 season would be equal to 37,876,650 bushels. Figuring about 750 bushel boxes to each car of western apples, the 62,808 cars from the West would be equal to 47,106,000 bushels. Therefore, instead of the East having shipped more apples than the West, as the carlot figures would indicate, there were about 9,000,000 more bushels of apples shipped from western States than from eastern States."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 21:

- Page 389 - More Than 100,000 Inspections, - at shipping points.
 - 390 - Special paragraph on tomatoes in weekly review.
 - 391 - Potato Market Declines in South Carolina, - by W. J. Bertush.
 - 392 - Bad Season for Late Onions. (Review of the 1923-24 season.)
 - Big Business of Citrus Exchange.
 - 395 - Exports of potatoes to Cuba. (filler)
 - 397 - Inspection Service in California.
- (Page 291)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. POSSIBLE SAVING ON MIMEOGRAPH INK.

Recent tests in our Washington office and in several branch offices have shown very satisfactory results from the use of Halco Special Mimeograph Ink. This ink can be obtained at a cost of only 90¢ per pound, as compared with \$1.50 per pound for A. B. Dick Company's No. 767 ink. The substitution of Halco Special Ink will mean a considerable saving in expense. We are, therefore, sending small quantities of this ink to several of our market and field offices for trial. It is requested that a careful comparison be made between the two inks, and that you advise this office as soon as possible concerning the results obtained.

2b. SPECIAL WATERMELON REPORTS.IMPORTANT

This office is making a special price study this season on watermelons, which it is expected will develop some interesting facts with respect to the relation of carlot shipments and receipts in the larger markets to the prices realized. To carry on this study throughout the watermelon shipping season, it is essential that the same price basis be used for the entire season. It appears that the average commercial size of watermelons most popular with the trade is from 24 to 26 pounds and, therefore, this is the size upon which the study will be based.

Beginning immediately upon receipt of this Division Letter, prices on 24-26 pound melons should be forwarded to this office daily, either by wire or by mail. If insufficient sales are made to justify inclusion in your daily wire report, be sure to include the desired information in your daily mail report. This is very important. The markets from which this special information is desired are: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and Kansas City.

3b. NEWS OF FIELD DEALS.

The usual field station on peaches will not be operated at Aberdeen, N. C., this season, as that territory is being served from the Raleigh office. Peach reports were begun at Raleigh on Monday.

L. B. Jackson, Director of the Georgia Bureau of Markets, has started a special cantaloupe market news service for local growers and shippers. The El Centro, Calif., f.o.b. report and the daily cantaloupe shipments from each State are also being published on the peach bulletins issued by our Macon office.

Periodical market reports on peaches will soon be started by the Fort Worth office for the benefit of Texas peach interests. The State office at Austin is now covering the South Texas watermelon deal.

4b. SUMMARY OF CHERRY DEAL.

A brief summary of the New York Cherry Deal, season of 1923, is being distributed this week. C. L. Brown, recently-resigned from the New York office and formerly in charge of the Rochester office, is the author of this summary.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS.	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N.C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J.D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S.Beans* Potatoes Dewberries Cucumbers Peaches	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23	May 28* June 2* June 21* June 28 June 30 June 30 July 30
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C.E.Schultz G.E.Prince	Cants.	May 23	July 12
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 25
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. Chamber of Commerce	810	R.L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 6	June 28 ?
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS First Natl.Bank. Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 10	July 5
VALDOSTA, GA. **	832	F. H. Scruggs	W-melons	June 30	July 19

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	G. E. Prince	Cants.	July 1	July 25
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	Unassigned	Potatoes	July 15	Aug. 23

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

OCALA, FLA. ** Post Office Bldg.	832	F. H. Scruggs	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 27 May 29 June 6	<u>Closed</u> June 25 June 12 June 28
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Ellis House	809	G. D. Clark	Carrots Cabbage Tomatoes	May 31 May 31 June 4	June 7 June 7 June 28

*Report discontinued. ** State Department cooperating.

Temporary Assignments:

R. M. Peterson - Fla. inspection work.	A. E. Prugh - in Kansas City office
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office.	R. H. Lamb - in Washington office.
W. J. Bertush - in Chicago office.	G. D. Clark - in Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. USE OF LEASED WIRES FOR RUSH MESSAGES.

It is sometimes impossible to get immediate service on leased wires which are crowded with regular market information. In case a message regarding inspection work should be rushed, always inquire of the leased wire operator whether it can be sent immediately. If this is not possible, send the message by Western Union.

2c. REVISED GRADES FOR FRESH PLUMS AND PRUNES.

With this D.L., all Inspectors are being sent copies of the recently-revised Federal Grades for Fresh Plums and Prunes.

F. G. ROBB,

See Par. 3c on Page 297.

Specialist in Inspection.

STANDARDIZATION WORK.1d. PEANUT GRADES ADOPTED.

The annual meeting of the Southwestern Peanut Association, held at Atlanta on June 19, recommended the permanent adoption of the U. S. Grades for shelled White Spanish Peanuts as they now stand, including the tolerance of 1% for discolored peanuts. The Association also, by unanimous vote, requested our Department to formulate grades for Runner peanuts. Mr. Samson represented the Department at this meeting.

2d. NEVADA ADOPTS U. S. GRADES FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The U. S. grades for potatoes, northern²grown onions, Bermuda onions, head lettuce, rough celery, cauliflower, cabbage, asparagus and peaches have been adopted as the official grades for Nevada, under authority contained in the Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act passed by the last session of the Nevada Legislature. In addition, State grades have been promulgated for cantaloupes, honey, grapes, alfalfa hay and alfalfa meal.

The grading and standardization work in Nevada comes under the supervision of S. C. Dinsmore, State Sealer of Weights and Measures, Public Service Department, University of Nevada, Reno. The Standardization Act confers upon the State Sealer of Weights and Measures authority to fix and promulgate, as the official standard for the State for any agricultural product or container, those standards which have been promulgated or recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture. In the absence of Federal grades, the State Sealer of Weights and Measures is given authority to promulgate and fix standards or grades, after investigation and public hearings have been held for the consideration of such standards for any agricultural product or container.

State-Federal inspections at shipping points are available to Nevada fruit and vegetables shippers, under the terms of an agreement between the State Sealer of Weights and Measures, and the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

3d. THE GRADING OF GEORGIA PEACHES.

On his return from Georgia on Wednesday, Mr. Samson reported that about 50% of the early shipments of peaches which were packed on the basis of Federal grades met the grade requirements. In view of the fact that these standards are considerably higher than those formerly used by Georgia interests, this is a very good showing. The fact that shipments up to the present time have consisted principally of early varieties, usually of inferior quality, also adds to the importance of this record; it is expected that a great deal more than 50% of the later varieties will come up to grade requirements, although sizes generally are running small.

The Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange sponsored a series of meetings throughout the peach belt this week, at which all the important interests agreed to pack no fruit less than 1 3/4 inches in diameter. This will leave a lot of small-size peaches in Georgia, but should materially strengthen the market for larger-size fruit. Some of these meetings of growers and shippers were attended by Mr. Samson, Mr. Conklin and Mr. Callanan. Most of Mr. Conklin's time is spent in the field, working with supervising inspectors in bringing about a uniform interpretation of the grades.

4d. JUNE SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

In addition to the usual tables on production and farm prices, attention of all employees is called to the following special material on fruits and vegetables in the June Supplement to "Crops and Markets."

Page 171 - Prospects for the apple and peach crop, based on May condition.

174 - Strawberry Supply and Sources, with chart.

177 - Cost of producing potatoes.

180 - Onion acreage in New Jersey. (filler)

181 - Tomato and cantaloupe acreage in New Jersey. (fillers)

182 - Gross value of many fruits and vegetables.

183 - Apple cold-storage report for May 1.

191 - Inspection Service in Florida.

197 - Alabama Potato Movement Heavy, - J. D. Evers.

198 - Carload Shipments by States during April.

199 - April Shipments of Citrus Fruits.

- Federal Inspections during April.

- Peach Supply of New York and Chicago, with chart.

200 - Apple Market Season. (Review of the 1923-24 season.)

201 - Asparagus plantings in New Jersey. (filler)

202 - Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers report.

H. W. SAMSON,

Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Stillwell is in Philadelphia today, conferring with Mr. Biddle and Mr. Scott, regarding the market news work.

About August 1, V. D. Callanan will be placed in permanent charge of the New York City office of the Market News Service. It is inadvisable to take him out of Georgia now, but Mr. Callanan will go to New York as soon as the Georgia peach deal is finished.

J. W. Park returned to Washington from Albuquerque, N. Mex., last Saturday. He has been handling odd jobs around the local office this week, and next week will start on a short period of leave.

W. J. Bertush, who spent a few days in the Washington office after closing the field station at Charleston, S. C., has now gone to Chicago, where he will assist with market reporting work until about July 5. The remainder of July, Mr. Bertush expects to be on leave and about August 1 will report for duty in Detroit. He will give special attention to market reports in the Detroit office, helping also with inspections when necessary.

R. H. Lamb arrived in Washington on Thursday, where he will assist with local work for a brief period. Until recently, Mr. Lamb operated the temporary field station at Raleigh, N. C.

After closing the Crystal Springs, Miss., office this Saturday, G. D. Clark will work on his field summaries a few days, and then come in to Washington before proceeding to his next assignment in the West.^o

A. D. Atterbury, one of the cooperative inspectors in California, with headquarters at Sacramento, has been given indefinite leave of absence.

Part of Friday and all day Saturday, E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, will be on a trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia, for the purpose of arranging f.o.b. reports on potatoes.

W. E. Lewis returned from annual leave a few days ago, and then proceeded to Florida. He will be stationed at Live Oak, Fla., a week or more and then probably go to Georgia. In both States, Mr. Lewis will investigate the standardization of watermelons.

H. A. Spilman has gone from Los Angeles to El Centro, Calif., where he will make investigations regarding cantaloupes crates and other packages.

E. G. Batsford, of the New York inspection staff, expects to be on leave from June 28 to July 15.

In the interest of shipment reports of fruits and vegetables, F. M. Patton is on a short trip to New York and intermediate points.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

After four years' service as mimeograph operator in the F. & V. Division, J. E. Gantt has secured a transfer to the Bureau mail room. He will be in charge of the force handling the incoming and outgoing mail. Frank O' Brien, while still assisting with messenger work, will also handle what mimeographing there is to do in our Division and the filing of stencils, etc.

Recent additions to the clerk-typist force in Washington are as follows: Miss May Coult, in Miss Hall's office. Miss Emma L. McKernan and Miss Josephine Hartnett, in Mr. Clay's section. Mrs. Mary Holzbeierlein in Mr. Fiske's section. Miss Mary L. O'Leary, from B.P.I., in Mr. Robb's section. Mrs. Alta K. Stannard in Mr. Patton's section. Most of these are permanent additions to the force, while others are temporary. Practically all are filling positions recently vacated in the Division.

K. S. Branch, Inspector in charge at Kansas City, advises that his residence address is 5610 East 27th Street (Box 140). Though he has no residence telephone, Mr. Branch can be reached through phone Linwood 4436.

NOTE the following changes of address for Inspectors in the field:-

R. M. Peterson has moved from Ocala, Fla., to Live Oak, Fla. He is now supervising the inspection of watermelons in the Live Oak section.

O. N. Harsha will go from Crystal Springs, Miss., to Kansas City in a few days, and then will supervise inspection of potatoes at Orrick, Mo.

L. G. C. Peirce goes from Hazlehurst, Miss., to Macon, Ga., and will help with inspection work on Georgia peaches.

THE GLORIOUS FOURTH!

Friday, July 4, will be a holiday in all offices. This will necessitate delaying next week's Division Letter a day or two.

(Continued from Page 294)

3c. MATURITY TERMS FOR PEACHES.

My attention has been called to the use of such terms as "hard green" in describing maturity of peaches. Description of maturity of peaches should be by the terms given in both shipping-point and receiving-point Handbooks. The use of any other terms will result in confusion. Read over the Handbook circular on this product and refresh your memory on the maturity terms and those which have been given for pack and color. Refresh your mind also on the various blemishes and defects which are likely to be found in peaches. Stick to the directions covering these matters and our certificates will be uniform in meaning. Remember that peaches may show great variation in maturity in the different layers. Be sure that the certificate shows this.

(From revised Handbook, which will be issued shortly)

4c. ISSUING CORRECTED CERTIFICATES.

When, for any reason, a mistake occurs on a certificate and the Inspector desires to correct the same, a corrected certificate and copies should be issued, with explanatory letters calling attention to the error, and requesting the return of the incorrect certificate and copies. The corrected certificate will bear a new number but the same date as the one which it supersedes. Under the certificate number should be the statement: "Corrected Certificate." A statement should be made under "Remarks" on the corrected copy, giving the number of the certificate which is superseded.

F.G.R.

The above item and the one at bottom of preceding page were received after the previous pages of this D. L. had been mimeographed. - Editor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 27

July 5, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. TENTATIVE SITE SELECTED FOR NEW CHICAGO PRODUCE MARKET.

W. H. Hall wrote the following interesting letter on June 28:-

"After years of quibbling, a tentative site has finally been decided upon for the new Chicago produce market. The old South Water Street market has long since outgrown itself and was ordered moved by the Chicago City Council more than three years ago. The new site is at Ashland Avenue and 22nd Street, about three miles from the present location of the market. While all details have not been completed, an option has been obtained on the land, embracing 78 acres, and it is generally thought that the various interests will concur in the selection of this site and that actual work will be started within the next few months. Estimates of the cost of purchasing the land and erecting the necessary buildings range from \$6,000,000 to \$8,000,000. Even if the work is started this summer, it is believed that it will be almost two years before the new market is completed.

"During the past year a number of the South Water Street commission merchants have moved to the West Randolph Street market or to the Fulton Street market, both of which are situated about one-half mile west of South Water Street. However, those that have moved comprise less than 10% of the total number. The South Water Street market is an old landmark and has been a bone of contention for years between the municipal authorities and the produce merchants. The former desire its removal in order that they may put into execution certain plans for beautifying the city, and the dealers have opposed its removal for business reasons."

2a. GOOD USE MADE OF DIVISION LETTER.

S. W. Russell, of the New York office, advises that the various D.L. articles from producing sections, etc., are found to be of great value from time to time. One of the two copies of the D.L. sent to New York is clipped and the special articles filed in the form of a card index. Some of the headings in this index are: Code Changes; Bureau Regulations; Crop Conditions, by commodities; etc. The New York office also maintains a card file of various articles appearing in "Crops and Markets," and finds that this information works in very well with the D. L. material.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 28:

Page 405 - Active Carrot Season in New York. (based partly on New York City review of carrot market)

406 - Special paragraph on potatoes in the weekly review.

- Additional field stations of Market News Service. (filler)

407 - East Texas Tomato Deal Draggy, - by W. H. Mosier.

408 - North Carolina Potato Peak Passed, - by R. L. Sutton.

- Heavy Peach Movement from Georgia.

- Mississippi Closing Big Tomato Season, - by G. D. Clark.

410 - New Zealand Fruit Industry.

- 140,000 carloads of apples shipped. (filler)

416 - Australia Exports Peaches.

- Exports for the period July 1 to May 31, 1922-23 and 1923-24
of fresh and dried apples, prunes, apricots and raisins.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. REPORT OF CARS ON TRACK IN PITTSBURGH DISCONTINUED.

The following letter from J. K. Boyd, of the Pittsburgh office, is self-explanatory. Effective July 7, the daily report of cars on track in Pittsburgh will be discontinued:

"I believe it would be advisable to discontinue quoting the number of cars on track in our market wire. The information as furnished us by the railroad is misleading. Cars arriving on a certain day may be emptied on the day of arrival and partly reloaded with other commodities, being held on track until the free time expires. However, the railroad still reports this as a car containing the original commodity. On June 19th the railroad reported seventeen cars of strawberries on track, when as a matter of fact there were only six. On June 20th they reported eighteen cars of peaches, when in reality there were only two. I was able to check up these by personal observation. These are only two instances of a situation which is quite common on this market. Complaint has been made a number of times by receivers regarding the inaccuracy of this report."

2b. AUCTION REPORTS ON PEARS AND PLUMS.

The San Francisco office will begin market reports on pears and plums on Monday, July 7, and auction prices on these products will be wired from New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Chicago. This service will be enlarged as the season advances. E. T. Garlick and Samuel Leitzer, in Philadelphia and New York respectively, have been re-employed as part-time men to furnish the auction reports for their cities.

3b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

The following additional summaries of field deals are being mailed:-

CALIFORNIA GRAPE DEAL, Season of 1923, by C. E. Schultz, and the

WESTERN NEW YORK PEACH DEAL, Season of 1923, by C. L. Brown.

The New York Peach summary contains 16 pages and the California Grape summary 33 pages. Both are very complete reports, the grape summary being one of the most comprehensive and valuable ever issued. In addition to covering the California situation very thoroughly, it also reviews briefly the eastern grape deals.

4b. REVIEW OF NEW YORK CITY MARKET ON CAULIFLOWER.

Under date of June 27, R. H. Shoemaker and S. W. Russell, of the New York office, issued a one-page review of the local market on cauliflower. Receipts are shown by States of origin and by months from August, 1923, to June, 1924. A second table gives the total arrivals by weeks and the jobbing range on New York State cauliflower, western stock and Virginia stock.

5b. MONTHLY SUMMARY OF UNLOADS AT ATLANTA.

Like several other offices, Atlanta issues a monthly mimeographed sheet, showing in tabular form the carlot unloads of all fruits and vegetables received in that market during the preceding month. Mr. Curry accompanies the statistics by a page of newsy comment, suitable for press use. His latest report, dated July 3, includes a number of remarks appropriate to the summer season. He talks about "lemonade weather" in connection with the receipts of lemons, and about July 4th and watermelons being "synonymous."

6b. TRUCKING BERRIES FROM MICHIGAN TO CHICAGO.

In a letter of June 27, H. E. Rutland, one of the technical assistants in the Chicago office, gave the following information on berries:-

"Michigan strawberries are now coming to Chicago in large quantities and the season is in full swing. June 26th was probably the big day of the season in Chicago, arrivals being 36,000 crates by boat and 6,000 by truck.

"It is rather unusual for Michigan strawberries to come to this market in large quantities by truck. The shipping points now using trucks for hauling to Chicago are St. Joseph, Stephenville, Bridgeman, Sodus and a few other places in that vicinity. The trip requires from four to six hours, making it necessary for trucks to leave shipping points soon after midnight to reach the city in time for the early morning market.

"Dealers here claim that the berries arrive in better condition than those shipped by boat. The elimination of much handling and hauling probably accounts for this. Shipments by boat are handled at least five times by hand or truck before delivery. Shipments by truck are loaded at the shipping point and unloaded at the dealer's door.

"On a few occasions, truckloads have arrived before the boats and sold out early at prices rather above the average. With receipts as heavy as they have been for the last few days, early arrival is a distinct advantage. However, dealers do not think there is much likelihood of greater quantities being shipped by truck than at present, due to the rather long haul and the difficulty in competing with the cheap, boat freight rates."

7b. GOOD QUALITY ILLINOIS ICEBERG LETTUCE ON MARKET.

H. E. Rutland, of the Chicago office, gives this additional information in another letter, dated June 27:-

"Homegrown Iceberg lettuce of good quality has been appearing on the Chicago market in increasing quantities the last few days. This will be news to many who think that only the western States can produce Iceberg lettuce of good merchantable quality. The homegrown stock compares favorably with the best western stock now being offered in Chicago. The heads range from medium to large size, and are very firm and crisp. It is usually sold in orange boxes or flat crates, containing from 16 to 24 heads. The stock is fairly well trimmed and packed, and presents quite an attractive appearance.

"The exceptionally high quality of this year's homegrown offerings is due to the cool weather and generally favorable conditions for growing lettuce here this season. The nights have been cool, causing the heads to harden much better than in previous years.

"So far, the prices received for this product have been rather a disappointment to growers. However, increasing supplies have helped to emphasize the good quality of offerings and some improvement is expected. This stock is fast becoming a considerable figure in the Chicago lettuce market. There has been a slump in the market on western offerings lately, and some dealers attribute this to the increase in importance and the relatively low price of homegrown lettuce."

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N.C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans* Potatoes Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cants. W-melons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 10 July 22	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 9 June 27* July 3* July 30 July 30 Aug. 15
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 25
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS First Natl. Bank Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 10	July 9
VALDOSTA, GA. ** Hotel Valdes	832	F. H. Scruggs	W-melons	July 1	July 19
PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	G. E. Prince	Cants.	July 3	July 25

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 15	Nov. 29
CALDWELL, IDAHO	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 21	Sept. 6
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 30
KENNETT, MO.	819	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	July 29	Aug. 20
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Peaches Apples	Aug. 1 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 20 Oct. 31

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz	Cants.	May 23	Closed July 10
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. Chamber of Commerce	810	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	June 6	July 3

* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. M. Peterson - Ga. inspection work. R. L. Sutton - in Pittsburgh office.
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office. R. H. Lamb - in Denver office.
R. S. Lumbard - in St. Louis office. W. J. Bertush - on leave.
A. E. Prugh - in Kansas City office. G. D. Clark - on leave.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. "LEAK" IN POTATOES AND CUCUMBERS.

Under date of June 30, Dr. G. B. Ramsey, B.P.I. Pathologist in Chicago, submitted the following information of importance to all our Inspectors:-

"In view of our recent conferences regarding sun-scald of potatoes, I thought you would be interested in learning of our latest contribution. We have been inspecting several cars of North Carolina potatoes lately and find occasionally tubers showing watery blister-like lesions, which many inspectors will be tempted to call scald. We have isolated the potato 'leak' fungus, *Pythium*, out of these lesions and believe that it may be responsible for much decay this season. The Slimy Soft Rot bacteria may follow 'leak' and produce a disagreeable odor, but if 'leak' is present to any extent in the lot tubers will be found which show the characteristic decay, as described in the Handbook. The wet type of *Fusarium* rot also is present in the North Carolina potatoes this season, but this decay can be distinguished from Leak by the presence of mycelium on the surface of the tubers and postular-like patches of mycelium which break through the skin here and there. *Fusarium* decay is not as watery as 'Leak.'

"North Carolina cucumbers also are showing a 'leaky' decay caused by *Pythium*. This disease is characterized by a very luxuriant white, cottony mycelium and watery decay of the fruit, very similar to the watery Soft Rot produced by *Sclerotinia*. *Pythium* grows much more rapidly than *Sclerotinia* at high temperatures and does not form sclerotia. Perhaps this may aid in distinguishing between the two kinds of decay."

2c. INSPECTION OF ILLINOIS BERRIES.

A recent letter from R. C. Butner tells of the volume of strawberries inspected at shipping points in Illinois, under the agreement with that State for the inspection of various fruits and vegetables in season. To the date of Mr. Butner's writing, 37 cars of strawberries had been handled at Quincy in the western part of the State and 31 cars at Villa Ridge in the southern tip of Illinois. It is possible that raspberries and cabbage also will be inspected in the Quincy section. Mr. Butner made a short trip to Quincy on Friday, June 27, in the interest of this work.

3c. PROSPECTS FOR CITRUS FRUIT INSPECTIONS.

L. M. Rhodes, Commissioner, Florida State Marketing Bureau, recently advised that the Florida Citrus Exchange has decided to take Government inspection on its shipments this coming fall and winter. The Exchange controls about 60% of the tonnage or approximately 30,000 carloads of citrus fruits, according to an item in the Georgia Shipping-Point Inspection Service weekly news letter, issued from Mr. Bier's office at Macon, Ga. This deal in Florida probably will open between September 15 and October 1.

4c. OKLAHOMA ADOPTS FEDERAL GRADES.

Oklahoma has adopted the U.S. grades for peaches, watermelons and potatoes as the official standards for the State, and these grades are being used in the shipping-point inspection work conducted in that State.

5c. NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

On June 30, the Secretary of Agriculture signed the Rules and Regulations for the Food Products Inspection Service for the current fiscal year. In general they are the same as for last year. The following paragraphs, quoted from the June 27 letter of transmittal to the Secretary, will explain the changes:-

In Section 3 of Regulation 5 (g) is restricted to apply only to cars inspected in receiving market. This is necessary because the applicant himself frequently does not know the name and address of the receiver. (h) of the same paragraph is changed by adding the words "when known."

Regulation 7, Section 1, and Regulation 10, include the amendments promulgated on April 3, 1924.

In Regulation 7, Section 2, the sentence providing for sending free copy of certificate to shipper has been stricken out, and Section 3 has been substituted. This provides for sending notices of inspections to all financially interested parties. The provision for free copies to the shipper has been stricken out because it has been found that the copies so sent do not have the educational value which was hoped for when this provision was made. In the majority of instances the copies do not get back to the grower who might profit by the information regarding the condition in which his products arrived in market. This section has also been protested by receivers who claim that it is a discrimination in favor of the shipper because they do not receive free copies of shipping-point certificates.

Regulation 8, Section 1. The provision that application must be made within two days after the receipt of the certificate has been stricken out. This provision was originally intended to prevent filing of applications after the quality and condition of the product had materially changed. This provision is included in Section 4 of Regulation 8 and the two days' limitation is therefore no longer necessary and in some instances interferes with the filing of justifiable applications for reinspection.

Section 5 of Regulation 8 has been amplified to make clear that second inspections requested by the applicant for the purpose of confirming shipping-point inspections are not reinspections within the meaning of the law.

Regulation 9 has been added to make definite provision for the practice of licensing inspectors which has been followed by the inspection service during the past year.

Regulation 10 (Regulation 9 of current year), Paragraph 2, provision has been made for charge for services on the basis of time when the carlot basis of charge would be inadequate or inequitable. Paragraph 5 of this regulation has also been changed to limit the maximum fee for the reinspection of a single car to \$15.00. Under the old provision the reinspection of

a car of mixed products, the total regulation fee for which might be \$7.50, would have been \$22.50, an amount which is believed to be excessive for the service rendered.

6c. REVISED GRADES FOR PEARS.

With this D. L., copies of the recently-revised grades for Pears are being sent to all Inspectors.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

IMPORTANT

Every branch office, both Inspection and Market News, is being sent an addressed post-card with this D.L., for the purpose of reporting to the Washington office any additions or corrections necessary on the respective address lists which are issued about twice a year. The last address list is dated January 15. Please locate a copy of it in your office, examine it carefully, and advise us immediately regarding any changes. DO IT NOW.

OFFICE NOTES:

George M. Beeson, of Iowa, has been appointed as a Food Products Inspector at Norfolk, Va., and is associated with H. H. Henderson in the work for the Navy. Mr. Beeson was engaged in meat inspection work for the Bureau of Animal Industry since 1906 and was transferred from that Bureau to his present position, inasmuch as all phases of inspection at Norfolk have now been placed under the supervision of this Bureau. Mr. Beeson will continue his duties as an inspector of meats and other provisions, much of his work being handled at Hampton Roads. After completing a high school course at Iowa City, Iowa, Mr. Beeson served in the U. S. Army from 1899 to 1901. He was engaged in business prior to assuming duties with B.A.I. in 1906.

F. J. Baehler, who, after long service on the inspection staff in Chicago, accepted a position last April with the Stewart Fruit Company, has been reinstated in the Inspection Service, and has been assigned to field duty in Louisiana. At present, Mr. Baehler is supervising the inspection of peppers in the Ponchatoula district. He can be reached through the State Extension Service office at Baton Rouge, La.

Mr. Stillwell expects to start about July 10 on a western trip in the interest of the Market News Service. His tentative itinerary includes stops at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, Los Angeles, Fresno, San Francisco, Portland, Spokane, Caldwell (Idaho) and Denver. This trip probably will require a month or six weeks' time.

This issue of the D.L. was delayed by reason of the fact that an entire holiday and a half-holiday occurred this week. Many employees were on leave from Thursday until Monday.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Leaving Washington this Sunday, C. W. Hauck starts on an extended trip to the Pacific Coast. He will first stop at Trenton, N. J., Ithaca and Rochester, N. Y., and Lafayette and Terre Haute, Ind., to make final arrangements for further investigations in the actual use of the Federal grades for cannery tomatoes. State authorities are interesting themselves in a study of this matter, with a view to making any necessary revisions in these grades and securing their wider adoption. Later in the summer, it is expected that Wm. E. Lewis will continue the Federal investigational work along this line.

Mr. Hauck's trip to California will take him chiefly into the grape-producing districts, where he will study the practical application of the tentative grades for table and juice grapes. He will make a study of the entire grape and raisin industry, observing the use of the U. S. grades for the fresh product and possibly working out grades for raisins. While in California, Mr. Hauck can be reached by mail or wire through the State office at Sacramento. Before returning to Washington in the fall, it is expected that he will also visit producing sections in the Pacific Northwest, to make further investigations in standardization work.

E. F. McKune, who has been studying standardization work on cantaloupes and lettuce in southern California, left California on July 3; stopped for a day at Phoenix, Ariz., and will be back at his Denver office by Monday, July 7.

Neal D. Sanborn, who has been assisting with cantaloupe inspections in the Imperial Valley, also will return to his headquarters at Denver by Monday, and then will proceed to Utah, to supervise shipping-point work in that State. He can be addressed in care of the State Dept. of Agriculture at Salt Lake City, Utah, for the next couple of months.

F. S. Kinsey, who has been supervising inspections in Mississippi, will come to Washington about July 7, to confer with leaders here before proceeding to his fall and winter work in the State of Washington. Mr. Kinsey stopped at Macon, Ga., on his way north.

Since the close of shipping-point work in Mississippi, G. W. Winfrey has gone to Georgia, where he will assist with peach inspections during July. He can be reached in care of Robert Bier, at Macon.

All Federal supervising inspectors are now out of Florida since the transfer of R. M. Peterson from Live Oak, Fla., to Macon, Ga., where he will help with the work on peaches. Mr. Peterson and his entire force of inspectors left Live Oak on July 3 for Georgia.

Wm. E. Lewis also has gone from Florida to Valdosta, Ga., where he is continuing his investigations in the grading of watermelons.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

For the next few days, mail for H. A. Spilman can be sent to the State office at Sacramento, Calif. Mr. Spilman completed his work on containers in southern California and is moving toward the Northwest.

It was believed that the issuance of market reports on cantaloupes would be discontinued at El Centro, Calif., today, but a wire just received from C. E. Schultz advises that the office will be operated until July 10 or 12. This explains why El Centro appears among the closed field stations in the list on Page 302; that stencil was cut before Mr. Schultz' wire arrived.

E. P. Lemott, head clerk in the Chicago office, spent several days in Washington recently. He visited the local offices, to observe how the work is conducted at this end of the line.

R. C. Lindstrom, who is supervising shipping-point inspections in Oklahoma, advises that about 150 cars of cantaloupes will be shipped from that State, and all of them are to be inspected.

H. V. DeMott, auditor in the Domestic Wool Section, has gone on annual leave until July 15 and then begins a furlough extending until October 1. Most of this time he will be at his home in New Jersey, where he has personal business requiring his attention.

The last case of the Domestic Wool Section to come to court trial on the facts resulted in another victory for the Government. It was the case against D. Davis & Son, Louisville wool dealers whose heirs are now in Chicago, and this Department recovered approximately \$3,500 excess wool profits.

After spending a few days in the Washington office, R. H. Lamb went to Cincinnati for several days' leave. He has now proceeded to Denver, and is substituting for John D. Snow, while the latter is on annual leave and on a field trip to producing sections in Colorado. About August 1, Mr. Lamb will open the field station at Grand Junction, Colo.

G. D. Clark spent a day in Washington, after closing the field station at Crystal Springs, Miss. He has now gone on annual leave at Laurens, Iowa, before opening the Caldwell, Idaho, station on potatoes.

R. L. Sutton discontinued potato market reports at Elizabeth City, N.C., last Thursday, came to Washington on Saturday, and then proceeded to Pittsburgh. He will substitute for J. K. Boyd, while the latter is on vacation from July 9 to 26. After that, Mr. Sutton goes to Kennett, Mo., to issue reports on watermelons.

After closing the El Centro, Calif., field station, C. E. Schultz probably will remain at El Centro a few days to complete his summary of the cantaloupe deal, and then will visit a number of grape shipping-points in the central part of the State, preparatory to opening the field station at Fresno.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Usually on Friday evening each week, Station WCAP in Washington broadcasts a talk relating to agricultural subjects. J. C. Gilbert, in charge of the radio work of the Bureau, delivers these talks, which are based largely on material prepared in the different divisions of this Bureau. The talk on Apples, broadcast on June 27, was supplied in part at least by G. B. Fiske, of the F. & V. Division.

The East Texas tomato deal is closing with a total of 800 cars inspected at shipping points to July 2. H. T. Longino, who has been supervising this work, will now give his attention to peach inspections in Texas. Several hundred cars of peaches probably will be shipped from that State.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., who recently went from Mississippi to Georgia, has been assigned to Montezuma, Ga., where he is assisting G. A. Dehaven with peach inspections.

L. G. C. Pierce's address in Georgia is Fort Valley (Box 66), instead of Macon, as announced in the last D L.

A. S. Mason, who is assisting with the Georgia peach work, spent this week at Sparks, Ga., inspecting cantaloupes. He will return to his headquarters at Monticello about July 7.

W. V. Stephens, who has been training inspectors in Georgia, returned to the New York office about a week ago, and shortly will begin the supervision of work at shipping points in New Jersey.

The Tennessee address of R. H. vonGlahn, who has been inspecting apples, is Spring Hill instead of Franklin, Tenn. This work likely will be completed next week, and Mr. vonGlahn will return to Georgia for a short period before proceeding to New Jersey, where he will assist with Jersey inspections.

F. S. Zimmerman, of the New York office, has gone to Delaware to supervise the inspection of apples and other products. His headquarters will be with the State Bureau of Markets, at Dover.

Shipping-point inspection of onions will be started at Pleasant Valley, Iowa, in about a week, and J. E. Dickerson, of the Chicago staff, will be sent to handle this deal.

W. C. Hangstafer, of the New York staff, has been in Boston for some time, assisting with inspections. M. L. Benn has just returned to New York after a week's leave. A. W. Moloney, Navy Inspector at Brooklyn, will be on vacation the last half of July. Herman Beckenstrater, who is now on leave from Philadelphia, expects to return to duty about July 20.

MARKET NEWS MEN should be sure to read the next pages, Paragraphs 8b, 9b and 10b were received too late for proper classification.

(Continued from Page 301)

8b. POTOMAC YARD PASSING TIME CHANGED.

(Effective, July 11)

Effective July 11, change the time in the meaning of FAJ on Shipments and Receipts page of the code from 11 A.M. to 9 A.M. The meaning of FAJ will then read:

"Potomac Yard reports passings during 24 hours ending 9 A.M. today, destined as follows:"

Similarly, change the hour on the meaning of FAK from 11 A.M. to 9 A.M.

For some 9 months in the year, a member of the Washington force visits Potomac Yard every morning and takes personally from the train-sheet records a statement of the passings during the previous 24 hours. These destinations are arranged by commodities and wired to the Eastern and Southern Circuits, Southern field offices, and to private firms requesting the information.

From 16 to 22 complete trains leave the yard daily with fruits and vegetables. These trains never move at exactly the same hours on different days, and frequently, when the movement to certain points is heavy, extra trains will be added to the schedule, or a train may be run in two sections a little distance apart. Below are given the passings for three typical days with the chief points to which the trains are destined:

Week Day A. M.	Week Day A. M.	Sunday A. M.
1:00 New York City	3:00 West Va. - Ohio	2:10 West Va. points
2:40 Pittsburgh-Buffalo	3:05 Phila. -N.J.Points	3:10 New York
3:20 New York	3:50 New York	3:25 New York - Phila.
4:20 New York	4:20 Washington	3:45 Pittsburgh -West.N.Y.
4:20 Washington	4:30 Boston	4:35 Boston
5:05 Boston	5:15 New York - Phila.	4:50 Pittsburgh-West. N.Y.
6:10 Philadelphia	5:45 Pittsburgh - West.N.Y.	5:05 Boston - Baltimore
6:40 Baltimore	6:05 New York	5:20 New York
7:30 Philadelphia	7:00 Baltimore	5:30 Philadelphia
10:45 Pittsburgh-Buffalo	7:05 Boston	5:45 Philadelphia
11:20 Philadelphia	10:05 Pittsburgh-Buffalo	6:15 Boston
	11:10 Philadelphia	6:25 Washington
	P. M.	7:15 Baltimore
1:30 Washington	12:00 W. Va. - Chicago	7:20 Pittsburgh-Buffalo
2:55 Delaware & N. J.	1:20 Washington	7:30 Pittsburgh-West.N.Y.
7:00 Philadelphia	7:50 Philadelphia	10:30 Pittsburgh
11:35 Washington	9:40 New York	10:55 Philadelphia
11:40 Pa.ppts.-Harrisburg	11:15 Washington	P. M.
York, etc.	11:20 Pittsburgh-West.N.Y.	6:40 New York
11:55 West Virginia-Ohio		7:35 Philadelphia
		7:40 Pittsburgh-West.N.Y.
		9:00 West Virginia points
		9:00 Washington

According to officials at Potomac Yard, trains leaving the Yard up to 6 A. M. will reach Boston and New England points in time for the market of the second morning following. Trains leaving up to 6:45 A. M. will reach Bolton Station, Baltimore, in time for that afternoon's market. Trains leaving up to 3:30 A.M. will be delivered in New York in time for the following morning's market. About 10:30 A.M. is the last time at which trains can leave the Yard

(continued over)

to be delivered at Pittsburgh, Buffalo and other northern New York points the second following morning. Trains for Philadelphia can leave as late as 2:30 P.M. with delivery guaranteed for the following morning.

Formerly, passings were being secured up to 11 A.M. of the current day. Recently, however, due to a rearrangement of train schedules and to a delay of preparation of train sheets in the Yard, it has rarely been possible to secure the passing figures on the trains to Pittsburgh, Buffalo, etc. leaving between 10:00 and 10:45. It has been thought best for this reason to change the breaking point of the passings to 9 A.M. as indicated above.

9b. DESCRIPTION OF POTATOES IN MARKET REPORTS.

The use of the U. S. grades for potatoes has now become so universal that "No. 1" usually means "U. S. No. 1" except for stock from southern States. For most early stock "No. 1" means "No. 1 size," or technically "U. S. No. 1 size." However, it seems best to eliminate the plain term "No. 1" from the market news reports on potatoes. The following procedure should be followed in quoting potatoes:

1. When stock is branded or sold as U. S. No. 1, and when it obviously meets the U. S. grade requirements whether it is sold on that basis or not, it should be quoted in the reports as "U. S. No. 1." This will necessitate some checking by the reporter, and careful judgment will be needed. Seeing the first potatoes coming from each new shipping section, either when reporting the market or in the afternoon, and at least occasionally thereafter, will aid in determining the grade; and the reporter's observations can be checked by consultation with Inspectors. Reports by shipping-point supervisors as published in the D. L. also will help.

2. When stock obviously falls below the U. S. grade requirements, as much of the output from North and South Carolina has done this year, disregard the fact that it may be sold on the market as "No. 1," and quote it by appearance, using suitable phrases from the "JI-JU" page of the code, or English if necessary to bring out clearly how it looks. If, by "No. 1," "No. 1 size" is meant, there will be no objection to describing the stock as "PEWAB SIZE." It is realized that often close examination of the potatoes cannot be made by the market reporter, but much help can be had from the Inspectors, who will know how the bulk of the receipts from the various sections are running. When the potatoes are on the border line, and may or may not be up to grade, it will probably be best to describe them as "U. S. No. 1" rather than underquote them.

Suggested sample quotations follow.: "cloth-top stave barrels Irish Cobblers - Eastern Shore Virginia, U. S. No. 1, \$4.00-4.25; North Carolina, U. S. No. 1 size, quality generally good, many slightly decayed \$3.00-3.50, best sound stock \$3.75-4.00."

This procedure may make slightly longer potato reports, and it may take more time to get quotations on the basis outlined above, but such reports will be more accurate and of more value to shippers, receivers, or freight claim agents than are the present reports.

10b. CHANGE ON "NI" PAGE OF CODE. (Effective July 11)

On the "NI" (Peaches) page of the code, change the terminal

UJ Clings to read
UJ 1 3/4 inch minimum.

E.W.S.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 28

July 11, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. RECORD OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.

It seems to be believed by many that an employee of the Government must commit some offense which would be punishable by court action before he can be punished or dismissed from the service. Such, however, is far from the fact, and in order that the members of our faithful and efficient force may know that we are doing all we can to safeguard their good reputation and to prevent undesirable persons from remaining among us, the following instances are cited:

(a) A regularly appointed member of the force, while in training for the Inspection Service, was found to have cheated in one of Dr. Link's examinations by receiving help from, or copying from the paper of, another employee. He was given an opportunity to resign or face charges, and promptly tendered his resignation.

(b) An Inspector, who had been some time on our force, entered upon a number of certificates issued in one day such hours of inspection as to make it appear that the work had extended over about ten hours, whereas the work was done in about four hours or certainly in less than five. In an expense account submitted at the same time, false statements were made as to the hours of arrival and departure of trains, apparently also for the purpose of concealing the actual amount of time devoted to making these inspections. The amount of reimbursement was not increased by these false entries so that the Government was not defrauded of any money, but the act constituted a falsification of an official record, both as to official travel and as to the inspections made. Upon the discovery of these facts, the situation was presented to the Inspector in a letter, stating that if his resignation was not promptly forthcoming the case would be submitted to the Secretary's Office with a view to the preparation of formal charges looking toward his dismissal. Again the resignation was promptly forthcoming.

(c) A trusted member of the force was given supervision of a small shipping-point inspection deal. Later, it was reported that on at least one occasion he had appeared in public noticeably under the influence of liquor. He protested that this statement was based upon prejudice rather than upon facts and that, while he had used liquor more or less for many years, it had never interfered with his work. Upon a subsequent occasion he was accused of reporting for duty with the strong odor of liquor on his breath. Again he insisted that it was all a mistake. Meantime he had been employed as an Inspector and a Supervising Inspector in several other producing districts. Months passed without further development, when it was proposed to return him to one of these districts to resume supervision of shipping-point inspection work. Then came a protest from a responsible local source with a specific statement that on a certain day this employee had appeared under the influence of liquor at a certain packing house and had actually given liquor to some of the employees. (Continued over)

Upon receipt of this information this office gave him an opportunity to tender his resignation to be submitted to the Secretary's Office with a full statement of all the circumstances for such further action as the Department might deem proper. His resignation not being received immediately, the Secretary's Office issued orders suspending him from the service, pending the investigation of charges. The next day his resignation was received.

In all such cases this Division makes it a point to place a full record of the case in the files of the Secretary's Office, where it will come to light in case the employee is ever again an applicant for appointment or reinstatement. Furthermore, in all such cases this Department reports the circumstances attendant upon the resignation to the Civil Service Commission. Therefore, if this person ever appears as an applicant for another examination, the Commission is on notice that his previous service was unsatisfactory and his chance for further employment is prejudiced accordingly by the adverse record on file with the Commission.

If an employee is guilty of some minor offense which justifies punishment, and if he accepts the punishment in good faith, admits his error, and promises to avoid it in the future, it seems both unjust and unnecessary to advertise the matter throughout the Division, thus putting the employee at a needless disadvantage in the eyes of those with whom he must be associated. But, when offenses are of such a nature as to justify separation from the service, it is believed that everyone in the Division should know just what action has been taken.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. REQUEST SUPPLIES IN ADVANCE OF NEEDS.

It is requested that, if possible, inspection certificates and other supplies be ordered on the prescribed Form BAE-88 far enough in advance to permit delivery from Washington in time to meet the needs. Every rush order entails considerable additional work in Washington, not only in our Division but in the Bureau Section of Supplies. The leased wire should not be used for such purposes except in urgent unanticipated instances.

3a. RETURN RECEIPTED REQUISITIONS PROMPTLY.

As soon as supplies or equipment are received, the requisitions covering such articles should be receipted and the Bureau copy forwarded to Washington. In some cases this matter has been overlooked. In the case of articles ordered from a contractor, payment for the purchase can not be made until the Bureau is advised that the articles have been delivered and are in accordance with the order.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FROM MARKET STATIONS.

Reports of activities during the first half of 1924 were due from all market stations on July 1. To date, only two have been received.

2b. DEVELOPMENTS IN DENVER.

In his latest semi-annual report, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, advises that he will issue mimeographed reports on lettuce, cabbage and mixed vegetables for the benefit of Colorado growers and shippers, starting about July 15 and continuing until October.

Mr. Snow, among his other publicity activities, furnishes a monthly review of the produce movements and markets for publication in the Western Fruit Grower. This review is written from the western standpoint.

He also is making a series of large graphs or charts, depicting the shipments and prices of Colorado fruits and vegetables. These charts will be displayed on the walls of the office for the instruction of visitors.

3b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 5:

Page 5 - Peanut Market Shows Increased Activity.

6 - Special paragraph on watermelons in weekly review.

7 - Heavy shipments of cabbage from Texas. (filler)

- Asparagus shipments to the end of June. (filler)

- Honey Outlook Unusually Variable.

8 - Imperial Valley Cantaloupes, - by C. E. Schultz & G. E. Prince.

- North Carolina Dewberries Important.

- High Potato Prices in United Kingdom.

11 - Active apple season in Tennessee. (filler)

- Season's strawberry shipments to July 1. (filler)

16 - Mediterranean Almond Situation.

4b. CARLOT SHIPMENT REPORT ISSUED FOR NORTHWEST.

The Spokane office has recently issued a 40-page mimeographed report, giving the carlot shipments of 26 fruits and vegetables forwarded from the Pacific Northwest during 1923. The total for Washington was 53,809 cars, Idaho 28,253, Oregon 14,377 and Montana 1,677 cars, making a grand total of 98,116 cars.

The main body of this Spokane report comprises detailed tables, showing the carlot shipments for 1923 by individual shipping stations in the four States indicated above. A similar report was distributed some time ago by the Los Angeles office, showing shipments by products and by stations in California, Arizona and Nevada. Offices having use for these comprehensive statistical summaries can request copies directly from Spokane and Los Angeles. The number of copies available is limited.

5b. ARTICLES FOR "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Employees in the field particularly, or at market stations, should feel free to submit articles for "Crops and Markets" whenever interesting developments occur. Do not wait to be asked for material.

6b. STRAWBERRIES USED BY JUICE MANUFACTURERS.

In a letter of July 3, J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, gives additional information on the Maryland and Delaware strawberry deal:

"We have found that juice manufacturers operated at Marion Station, Princess Anne, Fruitland and Salisbury, Maryland, and at Selbyville and Georgetown, Delaware, this season. I believe that it will be next to impossible to get an estimate on the total ^{number} of crates of berries packed. At Princess Anne one company packed 3,580 crates and paid \$3.00 per crate, capped. This is a very small pack for this concern. I do not know about others. I also understand that another company operated at Kingston, Maryland, and paid \$3.00 but packed many more than the house at Princess Anne."

7b. VEGETABLE AND BERRY SITUATION IN PHILADELPHIA.

Continuing in his letter of July 3, Mr. Scott tells of the arrival of new products in Philadelphia:

"New Jersey tomatoes, peppers, celery and new potatoes are on this market this week. Delaware blackberries and raspberries are coming in heavy. Delaware and Maryland cucumbers were on the market the first time this morning. Jersey will be shipping raspberries in car-lots next week.

"The Japanese Beetle quarantine has hit things pretty hard here. Several canners bought gooseberries this week, expecting to ship them to Baltimore, and after purchasing them found that they could not be shipped. Prices on many vegetables have taken a drop, simply because the stuff could not be shipped out of the city. Snap beans, turnips and peas have suffered more than other commodities."

8b. EARLY POTATO PROSPECTS IN MINNESOTA.

The following letter of July 8, from R. M. Ferguson, of Minneapolis office, gives a glimpse of the local potato situation:

"Last Sunday and on the afternoon of July 4th, I made short trips to the potato-growing section within a radius of 10 to 12 miles of the city. The early crop is looking better than it has ever looked, and all indications now are that it will be a bumper crop. This morning there were about 25 or 50 bushels of homegrown potatoes at the public market and the stock was exceptionally fine. It sold readily at \$1.50 per bushel.

"The larger growers and dealers anticipate that the loading stations will be operating in a small way by the latter part of next week. One of the large shippers at Osseo told me that his men had been as far north as Bemidji and the conditions throughout that section were practically the same as here. About the only thing that could affect the crop now to any great extent would be hail or heavy rains."

9b. ANOTHER FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

This week, there is being distributed C. E. Schultz's summary of the CALIFORNIA PEAR DEAL, Season of 1923. It contains 18 pages, including a lot of valuable statistics on pears.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans* Potatoes* Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cantaloupes Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 10 July 22	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 5* June 27* July 3* July 30 July 30 Aug. 15
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	V.D.Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 25
VALDOSTA, GA. ** Hotel Valdes	832	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 1	July 19
PHOENIX, ARIZ. Berryhill Bldg.	815	G. E. Prince	Cantaloupes	July 3	July 25

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 21	Nov. 29
CALDWELL, IDAHO	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 30
KENNETT, MO.	819	R. L. Sutton	Watermelons	July 29	Aug. 20
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. **	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Peaches Apples	Aug. 1 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 20 Oct. 31

The following station closed on date indicated:

JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS First Natl. Bank Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 10	<u>Closed</u> July 9
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* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. M. Peterson - Ga. inspection work. R. L. Sutton - in Pittsburgh office.
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office. R. H. Lamb - in Denver office.
W. H. Mosier - in Fort Worth office. W. J. Bertush - on leave.
A. E. Prugh - in Kansas City office. G. D. Clark - on leave.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. NEW SHIPPING-POINT DEALS.

O. N. Harsha opened shipping-point inspection work on potatoes at Orrick, Missouri, on July 3. He advises that all cars are being marked with the number of the Kansas City office, and information regarding any cars inspected on this deal can be obtained through Kansas City.

Floyd S. Zimmerman opened shipping-point inspection work on early apples at Dover, Delaware, on July 7. Inquiries regarding this work should be directed to W. T. Derickson, Chief, Bureau of Markets, Dover. The early apple deal probably will last three weeks.

Shipping-point inspection of tomatoes grown in Virginia was started at Crisfield, Maryland, on July 10. These tomatoes will be carried across the Bay on boats to Crisfield, where they will be inspected as they are loaded on cars. Cooperative Federal-State certificates will be issued on these inspections. N. C. Farnsworth, of the Washington office, will be in charge of the work, and any inquiries regarding certificates issued on this deal should be addressed to him at Crisfield, Md.

Shipping-point inspection of onions in the Pleasant Valley section of Iowa starts this week, to continue a month or six weeks. Inquiries regarding these certificates should be addressed to J. E. Dickerson, Inspector, at Pleasant Valley, Iowa. Mr. Dickerson has gone from the Chicago office to handle this deal.

Inspection of lettuce at Rose, New York, probably will begin about July 15. W. C. Hackleman will spend two or three days in that section, helping to get the work started. Inspections will be handled by Spencer Duncan, of the State staff, until Harry Duncan, now working in Georgia on peaches, can return to New York to take over this lettuce deal.

2c. FREE COPIES TO SHIPPER DISCONTINUED.

As mentioned in the revisions of the Rules and Regulations in last week's Division Letter, free copies of certificates to shippers are discontinued. They should, however, be sent post-card notices, the same as are now being sent to other financially interested parties.

3c. SECOND INSPECTION REQUESTED BY SHIPPER NOT REINSPECTION.

When a shipper, who has had his car inspected at shipping point, requests receiving-point inspection to confirm the original certificate, this is not a reinspection. A regular certificate should be issued and the usual fee charged. A second inspection is not a reinspection unless the applicant for same protests the accuracy of the original certificate.

4c. NEW INSPECTORS' CARDS.

New inspectors' cards are being mailed to all Federal Inspectors. Old cards should be returned to this office.

MONTHLY REPORT OF INSPECTIONS WILL APPEAR IN NEXT D.L.

5c. DIRTY POTATOES.

Some of our shipping-point inspectors have protested reversals of their potato certificates on the ground that the stock was too dirty to be classed as No. 1. Receiving-point inspectors should use extra care in reversal of certificates for this cause, if the stock is otherwise up to grade. Only where the appearance of the lot as a whole is definitely affected and where mud is caked on the potatoes should a shipping-point certificate be reversed for this reason.

The following items are from SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTORS' LETTER No. 3, issued from the Spokane office on June 30:

6c. DISTRIBUTION OF PUGET SOUND LETTUCE.

The wide distribution being given to Puget Sound lettuce is shown by the delivery points on the first 18 cars shipped by the Puget Sound Vegetable Growers' Association: Portland, 2 cars; Little Rock, 2 cars; Birmingham, Ala., 2 cars; Tulsa, 2 cars; Oklahoma City, 1 car; Florida points, 5 cars; Cleveland, 2 cars; Minneapolis, 1 car; Fargo, 1 car. Repeat orders were coming in from several of the points where first cars were delivered. Satisfaction of customers may be due to the fact that all of the lettuce is pre-cooled prior to packing, and is examined by the joint inspection service.

7c. GOOD PRICES FOR WASHINGTON STRAWBERRIES.

A report from the Washington Berry Growers' Association indicates that the first car of the season was delivered to Montana points and netted the grower \$3.65 per 24-pint crate. The second car was shipped to Chicago, and sold for \$5.22 per crate f.o.b. Sumner, Washington. Both cars were shipping-point inspected.

8c. OVER 700 CARS INSPECTED IN UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON.

R. F. Wilbur has submitted an interesting summary of the inspection work in Umatilla County, Oregon, for the year June 1, 1923 to June 1, 1924. It shows that 335 cars of apples were certified out of 1000 shipped, 313 cars of prunes out of 1,120 shipped, and that all of the 67 cars of potatoes were certified. Last year was the first season that joint inspection service was maintained in Umatilla County. In previous years some certified inspections were made in this county by members of the Walla Walla County (Washington) staff.

9c. FRESH PRUNES INSTEAD OF DRIED.

R. B. Phipps, District Horticultural Inspector at Vancouver, Washington states that there will be not less than 150 cars of fresh prunes shipped out of Clark County, this year, on most of which Federal inspection will probably be requested. Clark County, Washington, is essentially a dried prune producing section, and it is probable that the great reduction in the prune crop east of the Cascades, by reason of the April freeze, is responsible for Clark County growers looking to the fresh prune market as a favorable outlet for a portion of this year's crop.

10c. FRUIT STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION INVESTIGATIONS.

J. R. Magness and H. C. Diehl, of the Office of Fruit and Vegetable Storage and Transportation Investigations of the Bureau of Plant Industry, are now in the Puyallup Valley, making a study of the relation of texture and shipping quality of berries to climatic and cultural condition. Their work will be primarily with strawberries, raspberries and blackberries. They are also making a study of barrelling and cold-pack methods used in the Puyallup Valley and other berry districts of western Oregon and Washington.

Sometime in August Mr. Diehl will transfer his headquarters to Wenatchee, Washington, where he will remain during the greater portion of the apple harvest and shipping period, making studies of the maturity processes of different varieties of apples on the tree prior to picking, and in storage and transit after picking.

Messrs. Magness and Diehl have done considerable work toward perfecting a pressure device for testing the maturity of apples. This instrument will be given further tests in connection with Mr. Diehl's work in Wenatchee this fall, and will also be used to some extent by the joint inspection service in standardizing the maturity terms as used on the certificates.

11c. EARLY POTATO GRADES.

Following are the grade specifications which the Three Rivers Growers' Association is using this season as a basis for selling the early potato crop. The Association ships from Kennewick, Richland, Pasco and other points in the lower Yakima Valley of Washington:

Packed in Lugs:

Washington No. 1 Early, shall consist of potatoes not less than one and one-half inches in diameter, but 50% or more of the potatoes, by weight, shall not be less than two inches in diameter, and in all respects, other than size, the potatoes shall meet the requirements of U. S. No. 1.

Packed in Sacks:

Potatoes in sacks shall meet requirements of U. S. No. 1.

From Georgia Weekly News Letter of July 7:

12c. PEACH SITUATION IN GEORGIA.

The peach movement is now with us, and every man will have more than he may feel at times he can accomplish. This condition will last for two weeks. After the 20th of July, the daily movement will begin to fall off, due to the more southerly sections being through, although the Thomaston and Woodbury districts will just be getting under way. The present weather conditions are very favorable to the spread of Brown Rot. Considerable peach Scab is noticeable in Elberta orchards in some sections.

During the month of June, the Federal-State Inspection Service in Georgia inspected 1,055 cars of peaches, 3 of cantaloupes, and 4 of plums.

F. G. ROBB

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Leaving Washington Saturday night, Mr. Sherman expects to be in Tampa, Fla., on Monday, July 14, for a meeting with a special committee of the Florida Citrus Exchange, at which negotiations will be made for possible Government inspection of the tonnage of the Exchange the coming season. Robert Bier, now at Macon, Ga., will meet Mr. Sherman at Jacksonville and accompany him to Tampa for this conference. While in Florida, conferences may be held with numerous other shippers of fruit and vegetables regarding shipping-point inspection work. En route to Washington the latter part of next week Mr. Sherman likely will stop off at Macon, Ga., and Aberdeen, N. C., to acquaint himself with the work being done on peaches in those States.

According to his present plans, Mr. Stillwell will leave this Friday afternoon on his western trip, and will spend Saturday in Chicago, Sunday in Kansas City and Monday in Omaha. He expects to reach Salt Lake City by Wednesday, spending two or three days there in the interest of the Market News Service, before proceeding to California and other western points.

After about two years' service in the Inspection project, H. C. Miller, of the New York staff, resigned the early part of July.

Alva C. Hill, of Iowa, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist by transfer from the Federal Horticultural Board, and will report for duty in New York City, thus filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Miller. Mr. Hill received his B.S. degree from the University of Missouri in 1922, and his M.S. degree from Iowa State College in 1923. He was employed as a Field Assistant by the Bureau of Plant Industry for a number of months, and since February has been a Plant Quarantine Inspector in New York under the direction of the Horticultural Board.

R. C. Butner, of Chicago, will attend a meeting of the directors of the Indiana Farm Bureau Onion Growers' Exchange at Warsaw, Ind., on July 15, for the purpose of discussing the onion grades and inspection work.

S. F. Shreve, Baltimore Inspector, has gone to New York City to help with inspections in that territory until sometime next week.

Being about recovered from his recent illness, it is expected that R. C. Rose will return to duty in Cincinnati within the next week. A. H. Polster, who has been handling the Cincinnati inspection work during Mr. Rose's absence the past two months, will then proceed to Chicago, where he will assist with local inspections.

F. S. Kinsey reached Washington on Wednesday. It is expected that he will remain here for a few weeks, and during the absence of N. C. Farnworth on shipping-point inspection work at Crisfield, Md., Mr. Kinsey will handle the Washington inspections and assist with other work.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

During the peach-shipping season in North Carolina, A. E. Mercker can be addressed at Aberdeen, instead of Raleigh, N. C.

Wm. E. Lewis has now left Valdosta, Ga., and proceeded via Tifton and Moultrie to Macon, where he can be reached through Robert Bier's office, in Hotel Macon.

Early next week, - July 14 and 15, - H. A. Spilman expects to be in Portland, Oregon, and then proceed to Seattle, Wash.

G. C. Henny, of the California Dept. of Agriculture, Standardization Service, visited the Washington office on Tuesday. Mr. Henny accompanied an experimental shipment of plums from California to New York City. After a brief visit to Boston, he came to Washington and is now on his return trip to Sacramento, via Chicago where he will also stop a short while.

Temporarily at least, F. J. Baehler's address in Louisiana is c/o Ponchatoula Tavern, Ponchatoula, La.

Having closed the field station at Jacksonville, Texas, W. H. Mosier has gone to Fort Worth, where he will relieve W. D. Googe, while the latter takes a brief vacation, and will also assist in the issuance of the daily market reports on Texas watermelons and peaches.

In the next week or 10 days, H. E. Rutland will proceed from the Chicago office of the Market News Service, to Nebraska, for the purpose of operating the Kearney field station on potatoes.

F. M. Patton plans to make a short trip to Philadelphia early next week in the interest of shipment reports.

V. G. Gibson has returned from annual leave, and R. S. Lumbard, who substituted for him in St. Louis, has gone back to Kansas City to start his own period of leave. A. E. Prugh continues in temporary charge of the market reporting work in Kansas City.

After six years' service in the F. & V. Division and later in the Domestic Wool Section, Miss Zuleika Eelder has resigned and returned to her home in Texas. Miss Betty F. Krumm has been appointed to Miss Felder's position, and will continue the handling of wool-profits checks in the office of the Disbursing Clerk.

EVERY OFFICE should be sure to obtain a copy of the 33-page summary of the 1923 California Grape Deal, prepared by C. E. Schultz and recently distributed from Washington. It is a most valuable compendium on the subject of grapes.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 29

July 18, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. RESULT OF VOTE ON D. L. INDEX.

In connection with the complete index to the 1923 volume of the Division Letter, recently distributed from Washington to all technical employees, a ballot was circulated, on which the men were requested to state whether they like such an index or would prefer to have reprinted in pamphlet form at the end of every six months all the instructions and rules and regulations that have appeared in the separate Division Letters for those six months.

It was felt by some that a complete annual index to the D.L. is such a bulky affair that it is rather difficult to locate an item, even under the alphabetical arrangement. Furthermore, since a large part of each D.L. is NEWS material, of more or less temporary value and which would seldom have to be referred to by the average employee, it was believed that a reprint of the items of permanent value - such as instructions and regulations necessary to the proper performance of official duties - would better meet the needs of the situation than would a complete index. These consecutive semi-annual reprint pamphlets would then become "supplements" to the Handbooks, and would afford convenient reference to instructions and other requirements of the service. Inspection material would be reprinted separately from Market News material, and the front page of each pamphlet would contain a brief index to the items therein.

Results of the balloting on this question are quite interesting. The vote was not at all unanimous, but a considerable majority favors the reprint proposition. To date, 82 ballots have been returned, as follows:

<u>Proposition.</u>	<u>Votes.</u>
No. 1 - I favor the reprinting of D.L. material re instructions.	54*
No. 2 - I prefer a complete INDEX to the D.L. once a year.....	5
No. 3 - I prefer a complete INDEX at the end of every 6 months...	23

* Of the 54 who voted for the reprint pamphlet, 39 want only that and nothing more; 10 wish the reprint pamphlet and an index every six months; while 5 desire the reprint pamphlet and a complete annual index.

In view of the results of this balloting, it has been decided to issue reprints of instructions and similar material at the end of every six months, together with a brief index to this reprinted material. The Washington office maintains a complete index to the entire D.L., but this will no longer be mimeographed for distribution. It is hoped to have the first of the reprint pamphlets ready within the next two weeks.

2a. KEEP A COMPLETE FILE OF DIVISION LETTERS.

Every permanent branch office, and every traveling field man who can possibly do so, is expected to keep a permanent and complete file of the weekly Division Letters. No one can tell just when reference may have to be made to some important item in the D.L. Correspondence from Washington headquarters frequently asks men to "See D.L. for (date), Par. ."

In other words, even though paragraphs containing instructions will be reprinted at the end of each half year, it is just as important as heretofore that a complete file of D.L.'s be kept in each office.

3a. AN APPEAL TO CANTALOUPE GROWERS AND SHIPPERS.

Gorrell Shumaker, of the North Carolina Division of Markets, issued on July 15 the following circular appeal to cantaloupe interests in that State. It is a good example of the commendable efforts being made by various States to have growers market only the best products:

"Dear Sir:-

"During the past seasons there has been an annual race between a few of our poorly-informed cantaloupe growers to see which fellow could first get a shipment on the market. The result has been that a great quantity of immature stock, which was tasteless and practically unfit for food, was delivered into our consuming centers. Doubtless local buyers paid the growers handsome prices for this class of stock and were able to unload it on to produce men in the larger cities at a profit. This practice, then, would seem to be a profitable one for both growers and local buyers. But, is it?

"American farmers at the present time are growing great quantities of perishable products. Great nation-wide advertising schemes have led to the consumption of far greater quantities per capita of this kind of food. But how successful would these great campaigns be, if the owners delivered a poor quality of products on all orders thus secured?

"The great trouble is our greed for gold. Like the owner of the goose that laid the golden eggs, we do not look far enough ahead to see the results of our methods. Instead of getting fabulous sums for the first shipments of immature melons and few repeat orders, why not begin at the first of the season with an earnest effort to ship nothing but first-quality cantaloupes? We can thus build a good reputation and, with satisfied customers, we can well expect repeat orders at good prices.

"Too often our growers attempt to blame the weather, the railroads, the party in power at Washington, or some other force, when the cause for unprofitable returns lies in their own methods. If there are shipments of poor-quality cantaloupes from a producing section at the beginning of the season, the consuming markets will avoid further purchases from that locality. Naturally prices cannot be other than low, if the demand is so limited.

"Fortunately, the well-informed growers are opposed to the practice of shipping immature stock or stock of poor quality.

"The Division of Markets is making an earnest effort to assist North Carolina growers in every possible way. We firmly believe that the biggest thing the growers can do at this time is to build for the future in eliminating all shipments of faulty cantaloupes.

"N.C. Division of Markets.

Gorrell Shumaker,

Specialist in Marketing Fruits and Vegetables."

READ ABOUT THE BRIX HYDROMETER TEST
for cantaloupes on another page of this D.L.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ARIZONA CANTALOUPE DEAL.

Writing under date of July 9 from Phoenix, Arizona, George E. Prince gave the following information concerning cantaloupes in that district. Mr. Prince is sharing the office of the State Agricultural Statistician, Mr. Wells, at Phoenix:

"The crop is being handled by three distributors this season and they seem to appreciate our service, but with the small number and the fact that the two larger ones work closely together, no distribution meetings are being held. Am showing the destinations for the previous ten days on each report, and these are being watched closely.

"The acreage is placed at 3000-3500 acres, and the carlot movement is being estimated at 1600-1800 cars, including about 300 cars of Honey Dews, but of course the total movement will depend largely upon weather conditions. Believe that yesterday was the peak day, with 123 cars out, and the total to date is 563. The peak day usually comes when about one-third of the crop has been moved. Seems that the movement will be practically over by July 25.

"One of the distributors has just informed me that they are estimating the Turlock cantaloupe tonnage this season around 700 cars, the drouth having cut the crop considerably."

2b. TEXAS MARKET NEWS SERVICE SHOWS DEVELOPMENT.

Through cooperation of the press, a splendid timely service on markets was rendered the past year in Texas, according to the annual report of the Texas Radio Market News Service for the year ending June 30. A total of 470 telegraph market releases was carried on press wires out of Austin in the year, the market stories aggregating 77,500 words. Besides the telegraph reports, 227 mail releases were prepared for the newspapers of the State and for farm journals, and 150,000 detailed market sheets were sent to growers, shippers and handlers of Texas perishable products during the watermelon, turkey, spinach, cabbage, beet and carrot seasons. The service has shown a decided growth in popularity in the past year, according to J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Markets and Warehouse Dept., who has charge of the market news work for the State.

3b. ORDERS FOR MIMEOGRAPH PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

It is requested that orders be placed at once for such quantities of mimeograph paper and envelopes as will be needed for delivery prior to January.

4b. FIVE MORE SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS.

Summaries of 1923 field deals distributed since last week are:

WESTERN NEW YORK PEAR DEAL, 1923, by C. L. Brown - 11 pages.

CALIFORNIA PLUM AND PRUNE DEAL, 1923, by C. E. Schultz - 14 pages.

COLORADO PEACH DEAL, 1923, by W. J. Bertush - 10 pages.

COLORADO LETTUCE DEAL, 1923, by John D. Snow - 16 pages.

SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO AND EASTERN OREGON EARLY POTATO DEAL, 1923, by A. E.

Prugh - 14 pages.

5b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 12:

Page 22 - Special paragraph on peaches in the weekly review.

23 - Leading markets for New York apples in 1923. (filler)

- Heavier Inspections in May.

- Berries Hauled by Truck.

- Use of oiled-paper wraps for New Jersey apples. (filler)

24 - Georgia Peaches Active, - by V. D. Callanan.

- North Carolina Peaches Moving, - by J. D. Evers.

- Iceberg Lettuce in the East.

- Additional Market News Field Stations.

- Shipments of California plums and prunes. (filler)

6b. FEATURES OF KANSAS CITY REPORTS.

While temporarily in charge of the market reporting work in Kansas City, A. E. Prugh has introduced a number of new features on the stencils. At the top of the daily potato reports, which are now being issued for growers and shippers in Kaw Valley particularly, there appears an outline map showing the States of Kansas and Missouri, with the Kaw Valley and the Orrick sections plainly marked. Report No. 5 contains a brief article on the advantages of shipping-point inspection, and a list of Federal-State inspections in each State during the nine months ended March 31. The U.S. No. 1 grade for potatoes also is given in full and explained.

On the Miscellaneous Market Report issued at Kansas City, Mr. Prugh has inserted a small outline map of U. S., with Kansas City plainly marked in the center of the country.

7b. CODE CHANGE ON "WATERMELONS" PAGE, EFFECTIVE JULY 23:

On the "SA-SI" (Watermelons) page of the code, add

AN -Thurmond Gray

and change AQ -Irish Grey to read

AQ -Irish Gray

The Thurmond Gray was originated by C. A. Thurmond, Perry, Georgia, and named for him. Trade papers spell the other variety both "Irish Grey" and "Irish Gray," but, as "gray" is the American spelling, we will standardize on that form.

8b. FILE PEANUT AND HONEY REPORTS ON TIME.

Peanut wires are to be filed every Tuesday afternoon. Last Wednesday, it was necessary to ask the Telegraph Section to stir up six market stations for these reports. Four were finally received in time for publication, one too late to be used, and one never was received. Securing the peanut reports is as much a part of the reporter's work as getting potato or peach prices, and these reports must be obtained on time. If they are not written up early enough to be sent over the circuit on Tuesday afternoon, they should be left at the telegrapher's desk for sending the first thing in the morning, before the shipments are placed on the wire. Whenever the peanut report cannot be secured and sent on Tuesday, Washington should be advised by wire as to when it can be expected.

Honey and beeswax reports are due on the 14th and last day of the month. In spite of the customary telegraphic reminder, it is usual for one or more reports to be missing on the morning of the 1st and 15th. Please bear in mind: File peanut reports on Tuesday afternoons; file honey reports on the 14th and last day of the month.

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Survey

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans* Potatoes* Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cantaloupes Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 15 July 22	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 5* June 27* July 3* July 30 July 30 Aug. 15
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	V. D. Callanan	Peaches	June 2	July 25
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 14	Aug. 15
PHOENIX, ARIZ. Berryhill Bldg.	815	G. E. Prince	Cantaloupes	July 3	July 25

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 21	Nov. 29
CALDWELL, IDAHO	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 30
KENNETT, MO.	819	R. L. Sutton	Watermelons	July 29	Aug. 20
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. **	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Peeches Apples	Aug. 1 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 20 Oct. 31

The following station closed on date indicated:

VALDOSTA, GA.** Hotel Valdes	832	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 1	Closed July 12
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* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. M. Peterson - Ga. inspection work.	R. L. Sutton - in Pittsburgh office
R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office.	R. H. Lamb - in Denver office.
W. H. Mosier - in Fort Worth office.	W. J. Bertush - on leave.
A. E. Prugh - in Kansas City office.	G. D. Clark - on leave.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. LIST REINSPECTIONS AND SEND IN WITH YOUR MONTHLY REPORTS.

Some offices have failed to send the requested information regarding reinspections. Monthly Report or sheet attached to it should show the number of reinspections made, the point of origin of the shipment, product inspected, and whether or not the shipping-point certificate was reversed. Please do not fail to send in this information with your monthly report.

2c. INSPECTIONS REQUESTED BY SHIPPERS TO CONFIRM SHIPPING-POINT CERTIFICATES.

As explained in last week's Division Letter (Par. 3c), inspections requested by shippers for the purpose of confirming shipping-point inspections are not reinspections within the meaning of the Rules and Regulations.

If an Inspector finds, on making such an inspection, that the product is below the grade certified at shipping point, he should proceed as in the case of a reinspection. Another Inspector should be called in, or, if there is not a second Inspector in the receiving market, he should advise his Supervisor and await his instructions.

In case the two Inspectors decide that the shipping-point certificate is incorrect, a reinspection certificate should be issued to this effect. No charge will be made if the shipping-point certificate is reversed. If it is sustained, the usual charge of \$4 will prevail.

3c. REINSPECTION OF TEXAS BERMUDA ONIONS.

(IMPORTANT)

Fred W. Mally, County Agent at Laredo, Texas, has requested me to furnish information regarding reinspection of Texas onions. He has asked the following questions:

1. On how many cars was a reinspection asked for and granted?
2. How many reinspections sustained the original inspection at point of origin? Laredo only.
3. How many inspection certificates were reversed?
4. What were the predominating factors or causes upon which the reversals were based?
5. What were the predominating factors or reasons upon which requests for reinspection were based?

Will you please give me the information from your office at once, so that I can furnish Mr. Mally the data?

MR. MALLY DESIRES THIS INFORMATION AT AN EARLY DATE. ALL REPLIES MUST BE IN THE WASHINGTON OFFICE BY JULY 23.

4c. HOW TO HANDLE AND LOAD GRAPES FOR MARKET.

"Handling and Loading Grapes," the subject of Extension Circular No. 171, just published by the Extension Service of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, tells how to prepare grapes for market. Pictures and charts are used to illustrate approved methods of picking, grading, packing and loading the fruit. The grades for grapes adopted by the Michigan State Department of Agriculture as the official standards for that State, are quoted in full. Types of containers best suited for packing grapes are also discussed.

5c. TOMATO AND OTHER INSPECTIONS IN MISSISSIPPI.

F. S. Kinsey submitted the following interesting account of the work accomplished in Mississippi this season:

"The following inspections were made in Mississippi from April 18 to June 28, inclusive, almost all the miscellaneous vegetables being inspected during the month of May and almost all the tomatoes during the three weeks, June 9 to 28:

	<u>Cars</u>		<u>Cars</u>
Cabbage.....	38	Turnips.....	1
Carrots.....	23	Mixed Vegetables.	146
Beans.....	27	Tomatoes.....	1,661
Potatoes.....	2	Total.....	1,898

"At request of the shippers, a full force of inspectors was put on about June 2. About all the inspectors did the first few days was to turn tomatoes back to the growers, until by the middle of the week most of the growers had decided to leave their tomatoes on the vines until the week following. It was estimated by the shippers that the inspectors thus prevented the shipment of 150 cars of immature tomatoes and stock that would not ripen for 10 to 14 days after shipment. Experience for the previous two years was that the markets had been glutted at the outset with cars of Mississippi tomatoes which were either so immature as never to ripen properly or so green that they must lie in the terminal yards for a week before being suitable for marketing, with a slump in prices at the outset. A common remark in Mississippi this season was that the Government inspectors had saved the market.

"A peculiar feature of the tomato inspections was the use of 'street inspection' at Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst, Terry and Fayette, the points where most inspections were made. Street inspection has been in use in the Mississippi tomato section in past years. Booths are set at convenient points in the town, past which all loads are brought for inspection, and slips are given the drivers, indicating whether the tomatoes are to be loaded into a 'first class car' or a 'second class car.' The object is to avoid congestion of trucks at the car doors. At Crystal Springs, 12 street inspectors were employed during the peak, who were not licensed to issue certificates. This street inspection aided materially in preventing trouble for the car inspectors. Helpers also were employed at various points to open and close packages for both street and car inspectors."

6. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN KAW VALLEY.

J. Harold Hoover wrote the following from Topeka, Kansas, on July 9:

"The potato movement has become quite heavy and about 325 cars have been inspected. General quality is not as good as last year, many of the large fields showing a heavy percentage of bad scab, and a great many cars do not grade U. S. No. 1. Much of the stock is a little green and is skinning badly, but by the first of next week the quality will be much improved. The fields that are showing scab are being dug first, and this stock will be out of the way by the end of this week."

In a later communication, dated July 12, Mr. Hoover says that total inspections to that time were 500 cars.

7c. TESTING CANTALOUPE'S WITH THE BRIX HYDROMETER.

Everybody has heard of maturity tests for cantaloupes made with the hydrometer, but not everybody understands what this means or what process is involved. The hydrometer is floated in the juice of the cantaloupe, under conditions explained below, and the extent to which the instrument sinks into the fluid indicates on a scale the percentage of soluble solids or the density of the juice.

The Washington-Oregon Shipping-Point Inspectors' News Letter No. 4 publishes the following details, as originally printed in the California cantaloupe inspection circular on this subject:-

Method of Making Maturity Test.

In selecting melons for the test, three crates which as nearly as possible represent the minimum maturity of the lot are selected. From these crates, the three greenest melons in each are taken to make a composite sample for the test.

Apparatus Required:

Food grinder.	Two pans about 10# in diameter by 2½" deep.
Knife.	metal cylinder.
Spoon.	Balling scale hydrometer with thermometer.
Cotton bags or cheesecloth.	(Note: Brix and Balling hydrometer scales are identical.)

Method of Testing:

Melons are cut and contents of seed cavity removed, the edible portion is removed with a spoon and passed through the food grinder. The ground pulp is strained through cheesecloth and the juice poured into the cylinder until it runs over. The hydrometer is then placed in the cylinder and is allowed to remain a few minutes to allow the air in the juice to escape and so that the thermometer will record the temperature of the juice. Care is taken that the hydrometer does not touch the sides of the cylinder.

The reading is taken just at the top of the liquid. The reading of the hydrometer scale applies to a temperature of 60° F.

When temperature indicated is above or below this figure a correction must be applied. This correction is shown on the scale within the hydrometer tube and is added when the temperature is above 60° and subtracted when below 60°. As an example: Scale reads 10.2, thermometer 90°, correction 1.0 added to 10.2=11.2, the correct percentage of soluble solids. Since all soluble solids do not consist of sugar, the certificate should never state "sugar content," but should be written "minimum sugar test ____%."

The saccharimeter and all other utensils must be thoroughly cleansed after each test.

Examples:

- (1) Mature, minimum sugar test 10.5%, firm, well netted, ground color light green to turning, full slip, practically free from defects.
- (2) Immature, minimum sugar test 8.7%, slightly flabby, poorly netted, half slip, ground color dark green. 5 to 10% show sunscald or are otherwise defective.
- (3) Well matured, minimum sugar test 11.7%, slightly soft, fairly well netted, full slip, ground color yellow.

Practically the same procedure is followed in testing the maturity of grapes, except that, instead of using a food grinder, the grape juice is extracted by other means.

The following items, 8c to 12c, are taken from issue No. 4
of the Washington-Oregon Shipping-Point Inspectors'
News Letter, dated Spokane, July 10:
(F. E. Bailey is the Editor)

8c. WALLA WALLA ONION DEAL.

The first car of Walla Walla onions was loaded July 2nd, which was considerably earlier than loading in a normal season, and the peak of the shipments probably will be reached some time this week.

Wendell P. Brown, District Horticultural Inspector, estimates the crop at 600 cars, while others state that it will not exceed one-half of last year's crop of 850 cars, on account of the smaller size and the loss from seed stems this year.

The hot weather about ten days ago caused a premature ripening of many of the onions and stimulated the production of seed stems, so that these are present in far greater quantity than they are found in most years. It is a simple matter for the growers to cull out the seed stems in the field before the onions are topped, and those who are following this practice are generally delivering a good grade of onions to the warehouses, while those who are not are having loads rejected on account of the high percentage of seed stems.

Less decay than last year is being found so far. Mr. Brown is not yet prepared to state whether this is due to less decay being present in the crop or whether the growers are culling the decayed onions more rigidly in the field.

It is interesting to note that the root rot, which is the form of decay that has always caused so much loss in the Walla Walla onions, is showing up in small quantities in fields of the Walla Walla type onions, grown this year near Pasco on land which was just reclaimed from the sage brush and which has never produced any cultivated crop before. This would seem to indicate that the fungus causing this decay is either native in the soil of eastern Washington, or is distributed by the seed.

In spite of the reduced crop, Mr. Brown expects to certify as many cars as last year, when 210 certificates were issued.

The factors calling for certification on all shipments are the Ryan Fruit Company, Pacific Fruit and Produce Company, Valley Fruit Company, Walla Walla Vegetable Exchange, Robinson Brothers, and Walla Walla Fruit Growers, Inc.

9c. PUYALLUP-SUMNER NOTES ON THE BERRY CROP.

To partially compensate for a light spring rainfall and the mid-April freeze, weather conditions during the harvest period have so far been almost ideal for raspberries. The two or three very warm days about July 1st caused a small percentage of sunburnt berries, but the entire absence of rain during the harvest has enabled the picking of high-quality berries, with excellent shipping possibilities, a decided contrast to the rainy harvest season of a year ago.

If the April and May rainfall had been normal, and the spring freeze, with its 28° temperature, had not injured the bearing canes, the Puyallup Valley would have broken all past berry-shipping records this year.

(Continued over)

Pierce County, which includes the Puyallup Valley, is reported by District Inspector, Henry Huff, to have approximately 2,000 acres of raspberries, 640 acres in blackberries, 60 acres in loganberries, and last year loaded from the two shipping points, Puyallup and Sumner, a total of slightly over 400 cars of berries. Mr. Huff estimates the total production of berries last season, on a fresh berry basis, as follows: 580 cars blackberries, 689 cars raspberries, 200 cars strawberries, 16 cars loganberries, 3 cars mixed berries, making a total of 1,488. The difference between this figure and the 400 cars shipped fresh represents the stock which went into cans, barrels and local consumption.

About 65% of the Pierce County raspberry acreage is of the Cuthbert variety, which is known as the sweet raspberry and is far superior in flavor and general eating quality to the Antwerp, Marlborough and King varieties. The latter are known as sour berries and make up the balance of the plantings in the county. Many growers prefer to grow the sour varieties because the production per acre is higher. Some of the better "berry yards" yield an average of four tons to the acre per season, while others range down to as low as two tons.

10c. INSPECTING BERRIES IN PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

It may be of interest to comment upon loading and inspection methods in Pierce County. At Sumner, where the Washington Berry Growers' Association loads, the berries are removed from the truck, touring car or wagon to a belt, which conveys them into the precooling room. They remain there until the following morning (- about 90% of the day's picking is delivered to the loading station after 4 P.m.) at a temperature as near 32° as it is possible to maintain. The following morning the berries are placed on the same belt and move out the opposite side of the room into the car. The association and Federal-State inspectors stand by the belt, just outside the car door, where they raise the lid of every crate and examine the contents of the upper layer of cups as the crates move past them. Any crate showing over-ripe or otherwise seriously defective berries is removed from the belt by the inspectors and later diverted to the cannery or into LCL shipments for nearby consumption, according to conditions. In addition to this, the Federal-State inspector, at intervals during the loading of a car, sets aside crates which he examines more thoroughly, through both upper and lower layers, and records the percentage of broken berries and such other defects as are commonly found in all crates, but which do not bar the berries from first-class shipping stock.

To facilitate inspection, the two veneer boards, which form the lid of the crate, are fastened with but two 4-penny nails in the outer edge of each, allowing the center free to be raised.

At Puyallup, where the Puyallup-Sumner Fruit Growers' Association loads, the berries are received on warehouse trucks, by which they are conveyed direct to the car door without passing through a cooling room. At the car door, the two inspectors examine each crate before it is passed by hand into the car. After the car is loaded and sealed, it is switched to the ice plant, where air at a temperature of 32° to 40° is blown from a bunker room into a hatch at one end, and drawn out at the other for 30 to 45 minutes. About 5% of salt is then added to the ice and the bunkers before the car is rolled.

11c. BERRY PRODUCTION IN KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

District Inspector Darlington, of Seattle, has furnished the following figures relative to the estimated acreage and carlot production of berries in King County for last year, 1923. Carlot figures are on a fresh fruit basis, rather than on the basis of canned or barreled stock:

Strawberries... 2,000A;	250 cars	Blackberries.... 950 A;	50 cars
Raspberries.... 1,000A;	50 cars	Loganberries... 900 A;	40 cars

Mr. Darlington states that he has not yet had opportunity personally to check these figures, and he believes that some of the totals may be excessive. The greater portion of the berry acreage in King County is located in the White River Valley, which closely joins the Puyallup Valley, in Pierce County.

12c. MISCELLANEOUS NORTHWESTERN INSPECTION ITEMS:

During the month of June, 91 cars of head lettuce and 17 cars of mixed vegetables were inspected at shipping points in King County, Washington. The record for that county during the first half of 1924 was 210 cars.

W. E. Johns, of Kennewick, Wash., was inspecting cherry shipments at Cove, Oregon, last week, July 7 - 12.

A few cars of potatoes will be shipped from Hermiston Oregon, about the middle of this month.

W. L. Shovell, Chief of Montana's Division of Horticulture, reports that the commercial apple crop in that State will be limited this year to 125 cars from the Bitter Root Valley and 25 from the Flathead Valley.

Federal-State shipping-point inspection and State platform inspection were the subjects for discussion at the Wenatchee Traffic Association luncheon on July 11, at which representatives of both Federal and State services were present.

13c. FRUIT INSPECTED AS TO GRADE POPULAR IN FOREIGN MARKETS.

The shipping-point inspection certificate has its value in foreign countries as well as in domestic markets, according to a prominent fruit grower of Virginia, who recently returned from abroad where he visited the leading apple markets. In discussing the situation with the Virginia State Division of Markets, Richmond, he said that apples bearing the "Valley of Virginia" trade-mark and stamped "State Inspected" commanded a distinctly better price in Liverpool than apples lacking these characteristics.

All sales in Liverpool are made by sample, and buyers have found that the Federal-State inspected apples can be relied upon to be of uniform quality and condition and that the samples can be depended upon to be indicative of quality and condition of the entire shipment. Liverpool buyers stated that this is not true of non-inspected shipments, as in many instances the quality of the fruit goes through a very wide range, and purchases by samples of such shipments always are subject to a discount on account of the element of uncertainty. In case of sales for future delivery, where there is a subsequent decline in the market, it is not unusual for the purchaser to refuse to accept delivery, alleging as his reason a failure of the shipment to measure up to the quality of the sample.

Federal-State inspections were made in Virginia last year, in accordance with an agreement between the State Division of Markets and the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and plans are under way to handle an increased number of inspections during the coming shipping season.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspec- tions for Carriers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate copy Fees
Atlanta	10	13	23	26	3	0	\$ 80	\$ 7.50	\$ 0
Baltimore	11	19	30	64	10	0	108	7.50	0
Boston	223	160	388	110	278	64	1540	12.50	26
Buffalo	57	88	145	79	86	30	434	67.50	17
Chicago	13	243	286	229	67	13	1192	50.00	43
Cincinnati	4	37	41	78	0	0	160	2.50	2
Cleveland	85	185	270	165	157	17	904	107.50	38
Columbus	49	73	122	109	104	7	472	10.00	1
Denver	3	11	14	15	-	0	64	5.00	-
Detroit	103	93	196	171	95	4	748	22.50	3
Harrisburg	1	4	5	7	1	0	20	-	-
Indianapolis	4	17	21	47	1	0	80	2.50	3
Kansas City	12	78	90	52	6	0	324	12.50	-
Los Angeles	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	2.50	-
Memphis	7	22	29	27	23	0	116	-	9
Milwaukee	23	40	63	40	19	0	216	5.00	1
Minneapolis	4	30	34	62	1	0	128	-	-
New Haven	6	46	52	25	6	1	192	10.00	3
New Orleans	19	47	66	68	20	0	204	37.50	11
New York	325	229	554	403	343	17	1932	72.50	93
Norfolk	3	89	92	18	4	0	352	10.00	-
Omaha	5	8	13	16	-	0	52	-	-
Philadelphia	62	77	139	239	67	2	528	22.50	15
Pittsburgh	74	171	245	249	75	28	908	37.50	20
Portland	0	8	8	-	0	0	32	-	-
St. Louis	20	137	157	170	119	0	596	12.50	18
Washington	2	18	20	30	2	0	72	5.00	4
Wilkes-Barre	5	12	17	20	6	10	64	-	4
TOTAL	1165	1957	3122	2519	1493	193	\$11,722	\$522.50	\$311

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections....	1165	Inspections for Carriers.	1493
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...	1957	Declined for lack of time.	193
GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections..	3122	Total Fees Assessed.	\$12453.00**

** Total Fees Assessed include \$97.50 for inspections of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JUNE, 1924

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	246657	6532	19279	2400	265936	8932	84	0	0	C
NEW YORK	492533	179261	4771	-	497304	179261	1831	171	0	C
NORFOLK	677708	22269	50708	571	728416	22840	395	0	0	C
PHILADELPHIA	229620	19661	11626	462	241246	20123	1884	255	0	0
SAN DIEGO	590780	63444	15834	672	606614	64116	1405	0	119	C
SAN FRANCISCO	404447	-	66040	-	470487	-	0	-	0	-
SAN PEDRO	820698	-	30964	-	851662	-	352	-	0	-
VALLEJO	196415	32824	1651	4572	198066	37396	42	0	0	0
TOTALS	3658858	323991	200873	8677	3859731	332668	5993	426	119	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	56049	520	56569	0	0
NORFOLK	11000	350	11350	0	0
TOTALS	67049	870	67919	0	0

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected for the U. S. Lines 473,393 lbs. of vegetables, 198,721 lbs. of fruit, total 672,114, of which 81,904 lbs. were rejected; for the Munson Line, 142,876 lbs. of vegetables, 50,587 lbs. of fruit, total 193,463, of which 31,286 lbs. were rejected.

Other products inspected by the Norfolk office, including fresh and cured meats, fish, oysters, clams, ice cream and bread, were in the following quantities:

	Navy	Marines
Passed	120737 lbs.	2100 lbs.
Rejected	176 lbs.	-
Total	120913 lbs.	2100 lbs.

The San Pedro office also inspected the following:

	Accepted	Rejected
Bread	12174 lbs.	0 lbs.
Butter	12037 lbs.	1020 lbs.
Cheese	1333 lbs.	600 lbs.

The Vallejo station inspected and passed 37,740 lbs. of bread and 100 lbs. of rolls for the Navy.

14c. BENEFITS OF PINEAPPLE INSPECTION SERVICE.

Mr. Dunscombe, President, Florida Pineapple Growers' Association, of Stuart, Florida, writes: "I might further state that I feel the inspection service has been of great benefit to the deal this summer, not because we were selling f.o.b. and used these certificates in that connection, but because the grade and pack were higher than ever before. The market was inclined to be weak and, had a number of cars arrived and shown up with slack pack and considerable decay, the market would probably have slipped off rapidly, and it would have been very difficult to get it back. As it was, all cars that were handled promptly made good sales; there was little complaint of decay and none of slack pack, and I think the Association as a whole was well satisfied." (-From the Georgia Inspection Service Weekly News Letter.)

15c. REVISED GRADES FOR NORTHERN-GROWN ONIONS.

With this issue of the D.L., all Inspectors are being sent copies of the revised Federal grades for Northern-Grown Onions.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

R. N. Balster has gone from Chicago to Omaha, where he will substitute for V. V. Westgate during the next few weeks. Mr. Westgate will be traveling most of the time among shipping points in Nebraska, starting this season's inspection service on potatoes.

Wm. E. Lewis went from Macon to Savannah, Ga., on July 15, in the furtherance of his investigations of watermelon grading.

Shipping-point inspection of lettuce at Rose, N.Y., has had to be postponed until about August 1, because of the prevalence of tip-burn on early plantings in that district.

Leaving Washington early next week, F. M. Patton plans to visit railroad officials in Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Louisville in the interest of shipment reports of perishables. He will also visit F. & V. Division representatives at a number of these points.

Paul M. Williams, formerly on the staff of the Market News Service and later with Mr. Samson's project, but now connected with the Warehouse Division, is at present on a trip to southern States, making investigations looking to the establishment of Federal grades for Runner peanuts.

H. T. Longino expected to complete the inspection work on tomatoes at Jacksonville, Texas, on July 14. Inspection of Texas peaches hardly will be started until the 25th. Meanwhile, Mr. Longino has returned to Houston for a short visit.

G. W. Winfrey's address, while on Georgia peach inspection work, is Box 6, Montezuma, Ga. He is associated with G. A. DeHaven at that point.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 30.

July 25, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. GEORGIA AND NORTH CAROLINA PEACH NEWS.

The movement of Georgia peaches resulted in two peaks with a decided sag between. The first peak came with the very rapid ripening of Hileys, following a period of high temperature and hot nights. Movement reached nearly 600 cars per day and prices declined to such a point that shipments were largely suspended, since the fruit was not returning freight and package charges. Probably 2,000 to 3,000 cars of high-class fruits, mostly Hileys, were left unpicked in the orchards. In many orchards the entire crop of Georgia Belles remained unpicked. The second peak of shipments came with the movement of Elbertas and probably will reach its height today.

Carmans from North Carolina struck an unprofitable market because of the over-supply of Georgia fruit, and considerable quantities were left in the orchards. When Mr. Sherman and Mr. Bier stopped in Aberdeen on July 21, the picking of Hileys was in progress and North Carolina growers believed that Georgia Belles would be marketed from their section so as to realize something more than freight and package charges. About 1,700 cars may be inspected in N.C.

2a. SERIOUS DROUGHT IN NORTHWEST.

Under date of July 16, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, wrote the following item concerning conditions in that part of the country:

"The continued drought in the Northwest has had a serious effect upon all garden truck. Many of the lettuce fields have failed to develop solid heads, or have turned early to slime. The cabbage yield is seriously cut, and at the present time it is with great difficulty that local markets are supplied. The trade is already looking to California and Colorado for supplies of cabbage. Prices have advanced from \$1.75 per hundredweight to \$4.50 for local stock."

3a. BETTER SERVICE FOR MISSOURI POTATO SHIPPERS.

The Missouri State Marketing Bureau, Jefferson City, has been successful in assisting the potato growers of the Orrick Valley to secure a 24-hour delivery service to Chicago over the Wabash and Santa Fe railroads, whereas in previous years potatoes from that district reached Chicago on the third morning's market. A reduction in the minimum weight per car from 30,000 pounds to 24,000 pounds was also secured. Other early-potato shipping States have already secured the 24,000 minimum and Missouri, therefore, is just removing the discrimination that has existed for several years.

YOU can increase the value of the Division Letter by submitting
short items concerning new developments in your market
or your producing section.

(Page 335)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. POTATO SITUATION IN SOUTH JERSEY.

M. E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, wrote as follows in a letter of July 22:

"The New Jersey potato season is about ready to open, with practically every sign against it except the crop. After several years of poor to only fair crops, the farmer has been blessed with almost ideal growing weather and, from all signs, should have an excellent product to market. The trouble now is to find that market. The latest reports I hear from Virginia indicate that the peninsula as a whole is only about 60% through, which means they will keep the market in the East plugged full until the middle of August at the best.

"Reports from Long Island show indications of excellent stand and good yield. They will supply New York City and much of the demand from the North Atlantic States. So, New Jersey faces a serious problem of marketing.

"I have made one trip through South Jersey and find that potato fields never appeared better. The stand is very good and the vines cover the rows and are, in most cases, still green and healthy. After trying several patches along the road and finding 4 to 6 tubers to the hill, all No. 1's, I should say that, while the set is not heavy, the yield will be very satisfactory. Most of the fields, especially in the main potato belt of South Jersey, are still very green; only occasionally a field shows vines weakening.

"Digging in a spasmodic way will begin this week, but every effort is being put forth by the dealers to hold back the movement. This early movement is forced upon the growers to make room for 'second crop' stock, which is used extensively for seed the following spring.

"According to those closely connected with the deal, while the total acreage is not quite so large as last year, most everyone feels sure that, with any success at all, they should ship about twice the total number of cars.

"There are quite a lot of potatoes being hauled to Philadelphia by truck from the surrounding neighborhood, but few are moving as yet from Cumberland and Salem Counties."

2b. NEW JERSEY TOMATOES AND ONIONS.

Mr. Biddle's letter of July 22 continues:-

"The early tomato crop has been the biggest disappointment to most of the growers in Gloucester and Camden counties. The wet weather during the Spring prevented the usual crown setting and, up to the present, the movement has been very light. To July 17 there had not been a straight car loaded at Swedesboro where normally there should be 40 to 50 cars moving, beginning about July 1. Prices, of course, have been very high and quality poor. During last week prices ranged from \$4.50 to \$7.00, mostly \$5.50 to \$6.00 per 20-quart crate.

"Onions are moving freely from around Cedarville, and the season is about half through. Quality has been very good, although on account of the wet weather much of the stock has been rather dirty. Prices to the grower last week averaged around \$1.70 per bushel hamper."

3b. ERRORS IN SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO AND EASTERN OREGON POTATO SUMMARY.

Please turn to page 8 in your copy of the summary of the 1923 Early Potato Deal in Southwestern Idaho and Eastern Oregon, and make the following corrections: At the two places on that page, where shipments are shown for S. Carolina and N. Carolina, the State names should be changed to S. California and N. California. Mr. Prugh, author of this summary, discovered these stencil errors on receipt of the summary last week.

4b. TWO ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

The following additional summaries were distributed the past week: CALIFORNIA PEACH DEAL, Season of 1923, by C. E. Schultz, - 22 pages. WESTERN NEW YORK POTATO DEAL, Season of 1923-24, by C. L. Brown, - 9 pages.

5b. REVISED MARKET STATION ADDRESS LIST.

With this D.L., revised copies of the Market Station Address List are being sent to all offices. Please destroy the list dated January 15.

6b. KANSAS CITY UNLOADS DURING 1923.

On July 21, Mr. Prugh, in temporary charge of the Kansas City market news office, issued a special sheet, showing the carlot unloads as reported by the railroads during 1923. The receipts of 11 leading products are shown by States of origin and total 6,824 cars. Another table gives the monthly unloads for each of 15 products, and in a final tabulation the annual unloads of the 11 principal commodities are presented for 13 large markets in order to show the relative importance of Kansas City.

7b. BRIEF SUMMARY OF IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE DEAL.

In connection with his last report from the El Centro office about July 10, C. E. Schultz issued a brief summary of the cantaloupe deal. It comprises six long mimeographed pages, including detailed shipment tables, price tabulations, primary destinations, etc.

8b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 19:

Page 37 - Cranberry Growers Advertise Widely.

33 - Special paragraphs on grapes in the weekly review.

39 - Arizona Cantaloupes Moving Rapidly, - by G. E. Prince.

- Tomato Seasons Show Variation. (review of early tomatoes)

- Potato Exchange Secures Warehouses.

40 - Raspberries in the Northwest, - by F. E. Bailey.

- Michigan Fruit Growers Have Good Year.

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans* Potatoes* Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cantaloupes Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 15 July 25	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 5* June 27* July 3* July 30 July 30 Aug. 15
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	833	R. M. Peterson	Peaches	June 2	July 31
MACON, GA. ** Hotel Macon	875	F. E. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 14	Aug. 15
PHOENIX, ARIZ. Berryhill Bldg.	815	G. E. Prince	Cantaloupes	July 3	July 25(?)
CALDWELL, IDAHO	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 29	Nov. 29
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Aug. 30
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. **	846	R. E. Lamb	Potatoes Peaches Apples	Aug. 1 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 18	Sept. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH. **	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Grapes Apples Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 28 Aug. 28 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18

*Report discontinued.

**State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. H. Shoemaker - in New York office.
W. H. Mosier - in Fort Worth office.
A. E. Prugh - on leave.

R. L. Sutton - in Pittsburgh office.
R. E. Lamb - in Denver office.
W. J. Bertush - now in Detroit.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. PROSPECTIVE CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENTS.

As the result of a conference between Messrs. Sherman, Robb, Samson, Bier and Hackleman, in Washington on July 23, there will be a small number of changes of permanent headquarters among members of the inspection force, in order to provide for the increased work anticipated in Florida and in New York City during the coming season. Two States are negotiating with the Department for the joint employment of three of the members of our staff, which may result in further changes, all of which will be announced in the Division Letter as soon as the arrangements are consummated.

2c. WEEKLY AND MONTHLY REPORTS.

Each office is requested to send in weekly and monthly reports, even though no inspections have been made during the period covered. This is necessary so that we can determine when our report is complete. Some of our smaller joint-offices, where inspections are requested only occasionally, sometimes fail to report, and we are unable to tell whether this is due to oversight or whether no inspections were made at that office. If reports are sent in regularly, as suggested above, this difficulty will be obviated.

Weekly reports should be sent in on Saturday. Monthly reports should be in this office not later than one week following the close of the month.

3c. FLORIDA CITRUS FRUIT TO BE INSPECTED.

July 14 and 16, L.M. Rhodes, State Marketing Commissioner of Florida, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Bier, of this Division, met with a special committee of the Florida Citrus Exchange at Tampa, to arrange for joint State-Federal inspection of the entire tonnage of that organization during the coming season. This committee reported favorably to the Board of Directors and, on July 16, that body authorized the new President of the Exchange, L. C. Edwards, to complete the negotiations and make the necessary arrangements for the service. The Exchange operates 128 packing houses, and it is estimated that a force of 90 men will be necessary to handle this business alone.

Financial arrangements are that the carriers will pay \$1.50 for two copies of each certificate, that the Florida Citrus Exchange will pay \$3.50 per car, and that maturity tests shall be made as long as this Department deems necessary with an extra charge of 50¢ per car for each maturity test. It is agreed that there shall be an open meeting held each January and July, in which all the accounts shall be submitted for scrutiny and criticism and the fees shall be readjusted to prevent the accumulation of any considerable surplus or to forestall the danger of a deficit. The State and Federal Departments also agreed not to undertake any inspection work nor to continue to render inspection service in Florida on any commodity or in any community where the work is not self-supporting. In other words, we have assured the Exchange that we will not finance unprofitable business out of the fees derived from its tonnage.

This agreement with the Florida Citrus Exchange is the largest single order ever given the Inspection Service by any organization. If present indications come true, it will mean the inspection of 20,000 to 30,000 cars.

4c. EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA POTATO GRADING RULES.

A statement from W. A. Burton, General Manager of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange, at Onley, Va., presents the following -

RULES TO GOVERN THE PACKING AND GRADING OF IRISH POTATOES:

Star Brand

U. S. Grade No. 1

Minimum Diameter 1-7/8"

This grade shall consist of sound potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are practically free from dirt or other foreign matter, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scabs, blight, dry rot, and damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means, packed in U. S. Standard Barrels, properly filled. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, five per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size. This grade must be reported to the main office as Grade No. 1, straight or short mark car as the case may be. Later in the season, when the potatoes have fully developed and any car lot is found to have been carefully handled and the potatoes to have developed extra size, they shall be reported as Grade No. 1 Heavy.

Unbranded

Minimum Diameter 1-3/4"

This grade shall conform to all the requirements of Grade No. 1, except that the minimum diameter may be 1-3/4 inches. To be reported to main office as unbranded.

No. 2 or Gear Wheel

Minimum Diameter 1-1/2"

This grade shall conform to all requirements of Grade No. 1, except that the minimum diameter may be 1-1/2 inches. To be reported to main office as No. 2 or Gear Wheel, as case may be.

Potatoes that do not conform to the above requirements can only be received and forwarded on a commission basis in growers' names and for their account.

5c. MARYLAND NOW HAS A SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION SERVICE.

Shipping-point inspections are now available to Maryland fruit and vegetable growers and shippers. An agreement entered into by the Extension Service of the University of Maryland, the State Board of Agriculture, and the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics made this new service effective July 1. It is expected that the inspection of early apples will start sometime next week. Peach inspections will probably not be in demand before the first of August.

PUBLICATION OF THE REVISED SEMI-ANNUAL LIST OF CITY INSPECTION OFFICES AND INSPECTORS HAS BEEN DEFERRED UNTIL AUGUST 25.

6c. MICHIGAN ADOPTS FEDERAL GRADES FOR PEARS.

Michigan pears will be packed and shipped under the Federal grades this season, as a result of the promulgation of these standards as the legal grades for that State, by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Lansing. The new grades, which became effective July 14, were promulgated at the request of pear growers in southwestern Michigan, who want the same protection against the careless packer as now enjoyed by apple, peach and grape growers.

7c. INSPECTIONS STARTING IN COLORADO.

The Colorado Inspection Service is just starting to inspect shipments of this season's crops. The work at present is restricted to mixed vegetables in the Denver district and potatoes in the Fruita district, but indications are that Colorado will inspect a greater number of cars than to the same date in the past season.

8c. PEACH INSPECTIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

D. D. Whitcomb, Extension Marketing Agent in South Carolina, recently advised that peach inspections are being made at shipping points in that State. Two of the licensees have gone from Georgia to assist in this new work. Mr. Whitcomb's letter stated that "the quality of fruit which we have examined thus far is quite good, and the growers seem to be thoroughly impressed with the fact that they must put up a better grade of peach than they have been packing in times past, on account of the present status of the market. However, if weather continues as wet as it has been for the past month, we shall undoubtedly have troubles of our own."

9c. JULY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS"

The July Supplement to "Crops and Markets" contains forecasts on the basis of States for production of the leading fruits and vegetables, as indicated by July 1 condition, in addition to much other crop information of value. Special attention is called to the following items:

Page

Page 214 - Payments for Maine Potato Growers.

217 - California apricots and Prunes.

221 - Farm Returns in 1923, compared with 1922.

226 - Carrot acreage in Mississippi and Texas. (filler)

237 - Carlot shipments by States during May, with comparisons.

238 - Heavy shipments of California grapes. (filler)

- Fairly Good Season for late Potatoes. A review of the 1923-24 potato season, with tables showing production, shipments, city prices and f.o.b. prices.

239 - Carlot shipments of Citrus Fruits during May.

247 - Shipments of California pears in 1923. (filler)

10c. OFFICIAL GRADES FOR IDAHO.

Those Inspectors who are likely to have need of the information are being sent copies of the new booklet, entitled: "Official Grades for the Standardization of Idaho Farm Products, 1924," recently issued by the State Department of Agriculture at Boise.

F.G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned from his southern trip on Tuesday. A report of the results of the Florida conferences and of his observations in the Georgia and North Carolina peach districts is published in this D. L.

Robert Bier not only went from Macon, Ga., to Florida with Mr. Sherman, but also accompanied him back to Washington. W. C. Hackleman, of New York, also came to Washington on Wednesday and took part in the conference at which future assignments of Inspectors affecting the New York office and the Florida Service were decided as far as possible. Mr. Hackleman returned to New York Wednesday night, and Mr. Bier probably will return to Georgia today, to close the shipping point work in that State. More than 5,000 cars of Georgia peaches had been inspected to the early part of this week, but the deal is rapidly closing.

V. D. Callanan, who has been operating the news service on peaches at Macon, Ga., is now en route to New York City, where he will be permanently in charge of the Market News office. Mr. Callanan stopped off at Aberdeen, N.C., for a day or two, to get acquainted with the peach deal in that territory, and will be in Washington at least a day, reaching New York early next week.

R. M. Peterson, who has been assisting with the inspection work on Georgia peaches, has now taken over the market reporting work at Macon, formerly handled by Mr. Callanan. Aaron Stambaugh, of the Washington office, will remain at Macon to continue his assistance with the peach reports. It is possible, though not yet certain, that the headquarters for this work will be transferred to Cornelia, in North Georgia, within a few days.

The following additional changes are being made in the location of men who have been engaged in shipping-point inspection of Georgia peaches:

George A. DeHaven will go from Montezuma, Ga., to Chicago about August 15, where he will substitute for W. H. Hall in the Market News office, while the latter takes the course of training in inspection work.

B. E. Shaffer goes from Marshallville, Ga., to Chicago by Saturday to assist with work in Chicago for a few weeks, after which he will take a short period of leave.

C. H. Behnke and F. E. Hooper will proceed from Fort Valley and Reynolds respectively to New York City the early part of next week. They will become members of the New York inspection staff.

J. A. Marks goes from Byron, Ga., and G. W. Winfrey from Montezuma today, with Nashville, Ark., as their destination. These men will handle the inspection of peaches in Arkansas the next few weeks, assisted by three licensees who have been working with them in the Georgia peach belt.

P. D. Rupert left Thomaston, Ga., yesterday for Washington. He will stop at the local office a short while, and then proceed to Hancock, Md., where he will conduct a shipping-point inspection service on apples.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

E. E. Conklin, Jr., who has been handling standardization work on Georgia peaches, will proceed to North Carolina and do similar work in the Aberdeen section of that State, before starting his period of annual leave.

All these changes will leave only Robert Bier, T. R. Hall, J. W. Howard, A. S. Mason, L.G.C. Peirce and J. C. Townsend Jr., in Georgia to complete the peach inspections, and O. G. Strauss to continue the standardization work on this fruit.

Latest word from Mr. Stillwell indicates that he was in San Francisco on Wednesday and Thursday, and would spend the end of this week in Los Angeles, probably returning to Fresno by Monday or Tuesday. These visits to the various offices are in the interest of the Market News Service. The daily reports on grapes will be started at Fresno about the middle of next week.

The San Francisco office is handling this season the market reports on various deciduous fruits, which were handled last year at Sacramento. In addition to the reports already being issued, grapes will be added today. The Turlock cantaloupe district also is being served from San Francisco.

When the list of field stations was stenciled, it was not known definitely whether G. E. Prince would close the cantaloupe station at Phoenix, Arizona, today, but his latest f.o.b. wire says that he will do so. Mr. Stillwell will meet Mr. Prince in Los Angeles Monday, to confer regarding his future assignments.

H. T. Longino wired from Sulphur Springs, Texas, that he expected to start peach inspections in that territory this week. His office will be at Pittsburg, Texas.

Because of the rush of onion inspections at Pleasant Valley, Iowa, C.D. Shirley has gone there from the Chicago office, to assist J. E. Dickerson with this work for a few days.

In order to supervise the shipping-point inspection of various New Jersey products, W. V. Stephens, of the New York City staff, has taken up headquarters at the Coles Hotel, Moorestown, N.J.

It will be observed that Kennett, Mo., has been dropped from the list of proposed field stations in the news service on watermelons. It is believed that the St. Louis office can adequately serve the southeastern Missouri territory during the brief period that their short crop will be moving, and such an experiment will be made this season. R. L. Sutton, who was to go to Kennett, will have as his next field assignment the Rocky Ford, Colorado, office on cantaloupes.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

A. E. Prugh, who has been substituting in the Kansas City office for the last six weeks, has left there since the return of R. S. Lombard to duty, and is now enjoying a vacation at his home at Radnor, Ohio. Mr. Prugh is scheduled to open the Rochester, N.Y., office about September 1.

W. J. Bertush arrived in Detroit last Tuesday, after his period of leave, and will now be the permanent assistant to G. C. Bayley. Mr. Bertush will handle such market reports as are required from Detroit, and will also help with the inspection work. Rumor has it that Mr. Bertush was married while on his vacation the early part of July. If so, - congratulations!

E. G. Batsford, of the New York inspection staff, also is the recipient of congratulations on his return to duty this week. During his period of leave, Mr. Batsford was married to Miss Luella A. Bolton, of New Hartford, N.Y., on June 30. Their honeymoon was spent at Ithaca and in the Finger Lakes region of Central New York.

J. W. Park left Washington last Sunday on an investigational trip through the eastern cantaloupe sections. This week he visited various shipping points in North Carolina, and then he plans to stop at points in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. Mr. Park is making a study for Mr. Samson's project of the packing, loading and shipping of cantaloupes.

Since visiting package factories in the Pacific Northwest, H. A. Spilman started on his return trip and had reached Denver by Wednesday.

Members of the staff acquainted with R. M. Upton, who was associated with Mr. Samson's project last August and September, will regret to learn of his death by drowning at Chesapeake Haven on June 22. Prof. Upton had specialized in the study and practice of agriculture, and since 1920 was Director of Rehabilitation at the University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware. Last fall he made an investigation of the chain-store method of retail marketing in Philadelphia, under Mr. Samson's direction.

Harvey F. Wertz, who had been telegraph operator in the Federal-State office at Harrisburg, Pa., has been transferred to the Dairy Division office at Fond du Lac, Wis.

On Monday, the Boston office of the News Service expects to start special onion reports in behalf of the Connecticut Valley growers and shippers.

F. Earl Parsons should again be addressed at his Richmond office, - 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond, Va., - instead of Norfolk, Va. For the past two months, Mr. Parsons has been supervising cabbage and potato inspections at shipping points in the Norfolk district, but this work is now completed. Adverse weather conditions and other factors cut down the total number of inspections on this deal to about 350 cars, according to reports from Mr. Parsons, who visited the Washington office last Friday.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

N. C. Fernworth returned this morning from Crisfield, Md., where he inspected 53 cars of Virginia tomatoes. Such a large percentage of the stock ran below grade that the interested factors decided to abandon inspection.

Inspectors now on leave include M. A. Russell, of the Chicago staff, and T. L. Kelly, Navy Inspector in Philadelphia. Mr. Russell can be reached in care of C. S. Russell, Route No. 2, Ludington, Mich.

W. L. Evans, of the Washington office, plans to start his vacation next Wednesday. He will motor via the Susquehanna Trail through Pennsylvania to his home at Lee Center, N. Y. Mr. Evans' period of leave covers three weeks. G. B. Fiske also has gone on 10 days' leave on an automobile trip down the Shenandoah Valley and other parts of Virginia.

L. C. Archer, who has been with the Colorado Inspection Service as a District Supervisor for the past two seasons, has resigned to take up work with the Stewart Fruit Company of Chicago.

F. A. Powell, District Supervisor, of the Colorado Inspection Service, has resigned his position to take up similar work with the California Inspection Service. Mr. Powell's resignation takes effect August 1.

These resignations leave only two cooperative inspectors in Colorado at the present time, Paul A. Cauble in Mr. McKune's office at Denver, and George W. Dyer, at Delta.

Market and field stations now serving, or that will serve, mailing lists of potato growers may find it of advantage to distribute in mimeographed form the review of the 1923-24 potato season, or the statistical tables printed with that review, on pages 238 and 239 of the July Supplement to "Crops and Markets." Note that the tables of jobbing prices and f.o.b. prices on page 239 are a part of this review.

STATE OFFICIALS AND OTHERS, who furnish grade pamphlets and similar literature for distribution to Federal Inspectors, should bear in mind that at least 100 copies of such pamphlets are needed regularly.

We now have about 100 Inspectors on the roll.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 31

August 1, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. LETTUCE SITUATION IN COLORADO.

Writing under date of July 25, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, gives the following account of his trip through producing sections:

"A few lines about my recent trip to the lettuce producing sections of Colorado: I first visited the territory around Granby. At Granby there are 450 acres of lettuce and a small acreage of peas. The lettuce was looking fine after recent rains, but is late and will not be ready to cut before the 12th or 15th of August. An association of 30 members has considerable of the acreage.

"At Yampa there are 800 acres of lettuce and some peas. An association of 100 members has much of this acreage. The lettuce here was not quite up to that at Granby because of damage by cut worms, but still looked good and will be ready at about the same time as Granby. I am not mentioning the smaller points in each district.

"In the Eagle Valley, from Eagle up to Pando, there are 1,000 acres of lettuce and some cauliflower and peas. The lettuce looked fine and was well advanced at the time I saw it (July 11), and local factors stated that the first car would probably be loaded July 26.

"I went to Rifle, Silt, Palisade, Grand Junction, Delta, Olathe and Montrose, which is not strictly lettuce country but is experimenting with the growing of this crop. It was necessary for me to see Mr. Carl Rupp of the American Fruit Growers, at Delta, because that concern will handle for practically all of the lettuce associations in the State this season and, therefore, I wanted a centralized f.o.b. report from them daily, covering all of their sections during the lettuce shipping season. Potatoes were being shipped from Fruita, just outside of Grand Junction, at the time I was there but the movement was not heavy. Peaches were looking good and the Carmans were expected August 1, with Elbertas coming August 25.

"To get back to lettuce: from Gunnison to Salida, on the narrow gauge, there are 200 acres of lettuce, 50 acres of peas and 20 acres of cauliflower. In the Buena Vista district, from Nathrop to Pinecreek, there are 260 acres of lettuce, 400 acres of peas and 80 acres of cauliflower. At Divide the association has about 200 acres of lettuce, I believe. These three sections just mentioned expect to start loading about August 1 and, with favorable weather, will have a fine crop. Sargent, which is between Gunnison and Salida, grows considerable dryland lettuce, that was needing rain. This dryland lettuce is about the best in the State, if the weather is right.

"All sections were afraid of a shortage of help for harvesting. The peas especially call for many pickers, and at Buena Vista the association was pretty much worried over the situation. However, they are not so far from Colorado Springs but what they usually make out. At Granby and Yampa, peas have been grown successfully, but those sections are so remote that they do not dare to plant peas for fear they cannot get picking help.

"All in all, with a third less lettuce acreage this year, it looks now as though the shipments would equal last year's."

2a. FIELD SALARY CHECKS.

On account of the unusual amount of work incident to the preparation and handling of the first field payrolls under reclassification, it is likely that salary checks for the month of July will be somewhat delayed. It is hoped, however, to have all field checks out of Washington by August 5.

3a. SOME INTERESTING WATERMELON HISTORY.

F. H. Scruggs, of the Macon field station, recently obtained a lot of information on watermelons from some of the older shippers in that section, and it is printed below as a matter of record. This material has not been checked or verified by the Bureau of Plant Industry, and it is not known how fully it agrees with data in the files of that Bureau, but it is passed along for the information of our own employees:

"The first car of melons ever shipped in the South was from South Georgia to Atlanta in 1877. About two years later, the first car of southern watermelons to go north of the Ohio was unloaded at Cincinnati. For several years previous to that time Cincinnati had been supplied with Indiana melons. The first southern melons were known as the Augusta Stripe or the Rattlesnake, a long melon of excellent flavor but not a good carrier.

"From 1880 to 1890, watermelons became very popular with people in the larger cities. There was a great stimulus to the production, as the shipments had yielded good results. But from 1890 to 1894 there were very large crops, even compared to present day crops. Every farmer was growing melons and the few large markets became glutted. Some cities had as high as 700 cars on hand. Few markets, even during the recent glut, have had more than half that many melons at one time. Melons were not distributed to small cities and towns, as is done now. After 1894 and until 1903 very few melons were grown for shipment, because they had been so disastrous financially to the farmers.

"During 1903 and 1904, shipments were again started. The Round Blues had replaced the Rattlesnake to a considerable extent, sharing popularity with the Kolb Gem. About 1904 the Eden (Gem) came on the market as an improved melon. It was a cross between the Kolb Gem and the Rattlesnake, having the fine carrying qualities of the Kolb and the sweet flavor of the Rattlesnake. The Jones Blue was likewise propagated about the same time in Georgia, but was grown mostly in Alabama.

"The Tom Watson is the dean of the popular melons of today. This melon was propagated in 1913 by W. A. Watson of Thomson, Ga., the melon being a cross of the Rattlesnake and the Big Blue. It was the first popular melon of the long-melon age. This melon revolutionized the watermelon shipping business. It was the first real good eating melon that would carry. The Big Blue and Kolb Gem of the times previous would keep and carry like a pumpkin. The Tom Watson was named for the late Senator Tom Watson who was not related to but was a good friend of the Mr. Watson who propagated the melon.

"The next year the Tom Watson was crossed with the Kolb Gem and the Excell was the result.

"The next important variety to show up (in 1915) in Georgia was a melon unrelated to any other in Georgia or in America. This melon is now known as the Irish Gray. C. A. Walker of South Georgia first grew this melon and

Mr. Leonard of Cincinnati named it. It is thought that some foreign gypsies who were camping on Mr. Walker's place dropped the seed, as the melons were found near a well the gypsies had used the year before. The Irish Gray is more popular in Middle and North Georgia than in South Georgia, where the Tom Watson makes up more than 90% of the crop.

"The latest melon to come on the market is the Thurmond Gray, propagated and first grown extensively by C. A. Thurmond of Perry, Ga. This melon is a cross between the Tom Watson and the Irish Gray. It is a well-shaped melon, long but chubby at the ends. It packs well and carries well. The Thurmond Gray was first shipped in commercial quantities in 1923. A few were shipped in 1922. Mr. Thurmond to a great extent has had a corner on the Thurmond Gray seeds the past year.

"1917 was perhaps the most profitable year to growers and shippers in the last 20 years. Other war years likewise were profitable.

"1924 may be the least profitable year for South Georgia in the last 20 years. Florida growers shipping before July 1st made fair profits. With South Carolina practically out of the markets because of quality of stock, Middle Georgia may ship many more melons to eastern markets this year. If that happens, the season's profits in the Macon section will be satisfactory."

4a. GEORGIA SWEET POTATO GROWERS ORGANIZE.

Organization of the Georgia Sweet Potato Growers' Association, Valdosta, Ga., was completed on July 11, when a charter was secured under the Cooperative Marketing Act of the State, officers were elected and by-laws adopted. According to information obtained by the Division of Agricultural Cooperation, about 700 members have been secured in 17 counties of the State. The campaign will be continued until late in the fall and it is expected that about 3,000 contracts will be signed by that time. Standardization of curing, grading and packing are to be emphasized. Growers are admonished in the following terms:

"Remember that we are organizing to work out uniformity in our curing, grading and packing, so that the whole world may know when it buys a car of our product it is going to get what it bought. We want buyers of our potatoes to know that those in the bottom of the crate are as pretty as those on top, and we want the crate full when it reaches the buyer. We can't put something over on the buyer but once. And once we do, he is through with us for good."

5a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 26:

Page 54 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.

- Commercial celery acreage in the late States. (filler)

- Distribution of early Idaho potatoes in 1923. (filler)

55 - Federal Inspections Gain in June.

- Cantaloupes Moving from North Carolina, - by J. D. Evers.

56 - North Carolina Elbertas Starting, - by J. D. Evers.

- Imperial Valley Cantaloupe Season Ending, - by C. E. Schultz.

- Shipping-Point inspections in Mississippi. (filler)

- Pineapple inspections at Florida shipping points. (filler)

- Dried-Fruit Exports Increase.

- Value of Shipping-Point Certificates.

61 - Canary Island Onion Seed Crop.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CONDITION OF GEORGIA WATERMELONS.

In explanation of the continued shipment of large-size watermelons from the Macon section, Mr. Scruggs wired on July 30 as follows:

"Watermelon shipments from the Macon section thus far have been practically all from first pickings. As the weather has been exceptionally fine, melons have grown large and of fine quality, with few small sizes. Some localities will finish the main picking this week, with small melons then following from second pickings. Other points in this section will begin shipping their melons next week. Tom Watsons are much longer in proportion to diameter in this section than ever before."

2b. CONSOLIDATED REPORTS OF SHIPMENTS.

Please refer to page 59 in the D.L. for February 7, and note the following changes and additions in the list of railroads that have adopted the plan of rendering consolidated reports of their shipments through some general official of the company:

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe now has 5 reporters instead of 4.

Southern Railway has 2 reporters instead of 1.

Reports from the Atlanta & West Point R.R. and Georgia R.R. as such have been discontinued and consolidated with other reports.

Below is a statement of the revised totals and a list of the roads added since February:

	Number of Reporters	
	Old Plan	New Plan
Revised totals of the lines listed in Feb...	443	62
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific.....	13	1
Oregon - Washington R. R. and Navigation Co.	3	1
Los Angeles & Salt Lake.....	2	1
Southern Pacific (lines in La. and Texas)...	10	2
Tampa & Gulf Coast; Tampa Northern.....	2	1
Texas & Pacific.....	5	1
Union Pacific.....	6	1
Grand totals to date....	484	70

3b. NEW YORK REPORTS FIRST ARRIVALS OF SWEET POTATOES.

In a letter of July 26, R. H. Shoemaker, in temporary charge of the New York office, told of the first of the season's sweet potatoes to arrive in that city:

"The first car of new stock sweet potatoes arrived here from Florida on July 24th. W. H. Parker, of this city, is financing the growing of 200 acres of these potatoes and states that they are yielding approximately 30 barrels per acre. This stock is grown about 13 miles north of Gainesville at Alachua, and is of the Big Stem Jersey type. The car in question was packed in cloth-top stave barrels and brought \$12-15 per barrel. The following day the first car of Alabama sweets was received by S. Cohen & Company of this city, packed in bushel hampers and also of the Jersey type, selling for \$3.50 per hamper."

4b. CANADIAN LETTUCE IN CHICAGO.

The following report was received from E. D. Mallison, of the Chicago office, under date of July 28:

"The first cars of Canadian lettuce to come onto the Chicago market arrived July 24 and 25, being shipped from an apparently new shipping area near Vancouver, British Columbia. This lettuce is of the Iceberg type but greatly inferior to that shipped from Washington, having a small to medium-size head that is leafy, rather light in weight, and lacking compactness. Some of the heads were slimy, and a small number showed tip-burn.

"Dealers on South Water Street said the pack was a typical 'farmer-pack,' being loose and lacking uniformity in size of heads. At the time Washington lettuce was selling to jobbers at \$5-5.50 per crate, the Canadian lettuce was selling for \$2.00, using approximately the same size crates."

5b. POTATO SITUATION IN NORTH JERSEY.

Following his letter of last week, regarding conditions in South Jersey, E. R. Biddle wrote this additional letter on July 24 with respect to potatoes in the northern part of the State:

"Crop conditions in North Jersey are very satisfactory to the grower. The only thing that is worrying him this season is market conditions.

"Practically everyone in this district predicts the best crop, so far as quality is concerned, produced for several years. The Cobblers in this section look to be further advanced than in South Jersey. In fact, unless conditions have changed materially in the past few days, I should estimate that the upper counties are about a week ahead of the southern counties. This is judging from the condition of the vines at present. A large percentage of the Cobbler vines in the section from Hightstown to Freehold show signs of browning or of 'giving up,' that is, they are practically ready to dig. Farmers are digging in a small way and hauling to local markets, but all the dealers have decided not to open up before August 4th, and they feel that even then the markets will not be in a position to take many Jersey potatoes until the week following. That means that New Jersey will not get under way to any great extent before August 11th. Market conditions will affect this to a great extent, because the growers themselves are unwilling to begin for less than \$2.00 per barrel.

"It seems to be the general opinion of all those well informed as to conditions in the Freehold section that the acreage is about 15% less than last year, but that their actual tonnage will be over 50% heavier. There has been a radical change in varieties planted and there will be far less Giants than ever. It seems to be the general opinion that the acreage is roughly 50% Cobblers, 25% Giants and 25% late varieties, mostly Green Mountains. This, compared with former years when there has been 75% Giants, shows a decided change."

6b. CHANGES IN LEASED WIRE.

Effective July 31, the extensions of the leased wire to Harrisburg and Lancaster, Pa., were discontinued. The State Bureau of Markets has arranged to obtain necessary reports from Philadelphia by telephone, etc.

7b. PREPARATION OF AUCTION REPORTS.

In order to insure uniformity, auction reports should be arranged as follows, immediately on receipt of this Division Letter.

1. Date of the report, e.g. "GONUT."
2. Weather at 8 o'clock, local time.
3. Arrivals and cars on track, even if given earlier in the day with regular market report. On Monday afternoon, or after a holiday, arrivals should include all receipts since the last report, preceded by "CAPUY" or other appropriate term.
4. Number of cars or number of packages sold at auction that day. In markets in which that information is available, the number of packages sold should be included for each variety to indicate the relative importance of each. The number of packages should be sent in numerals instead of English. For example, instead of wiring "five hundred fourteen lugs," phrase it "514 lugs." This will save considerable time in sending the report, and should not seriously increase the chances of error.
5. For plums, quote on 4-basket crates and lug boxes only. Confine quotations to 5 leading varieties.
For pears, quote on full boxes only, and for the present on Bartlettts only. If Bartlettts are not sold, quote on the leading variety.
For peaches, quote on boxes and lugs, and on Elbertas and two other leading varieties.
For grapes, quote on 4-basket crates and lug boxes. Segregate Northern and Southern California quotations. Confine quotations for the present to Thompson Seedless, Malagas and Tokays.
6. Give range of sale by varieties and containers, with an average when it can be obtained; otherwise a "mostly" price. When a large number of packages is sold and the range is very wide, both the average and "mostly" prices will be valuable.
When comments can be included on the rate of trading on the auction, they should be inserted before the quotations. Never include jobbing market and trading phrases in the auction reports.
Do not group arrivals or number of cars sold at auction of more than one commodity. Make the report for each commodity complete in itself. Always file auction reports as early in the afternoon as possible.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS.	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will close
RALEIGH, N. C.** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S.Beans * Potatoes* Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cantaloupes Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 15 July 28	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 5* June 27* July 3* Aug. 12 Aug. 9 Aug. 15
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	833	R. M. Peterson	Peaches	June 2	Aug. 6
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 14	Aug. 15
CALDWELL, IDAHO Com'l Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
FRESNO, CALIF.	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 29	Nov. 29
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Aug. 30

The following stations ~~probably will~~ open on dates indicated:

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 18	Sept. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Grapes Apples Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 28 Aug. 28 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18

The following station closed on date indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ. Berryhill Bldg.	815	G. E. Prince	Cantaloupes	July 3	<u>Closed</u> July 24
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* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

W. H. Mosier - in Fort Worth office.

R. L. Sutton - Pleasant Valley, Ia.

R. H. Shoemaker - on leave.

G. E. Prince - Salt Lake City office.

A. E. Prugh - on leave.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. EXAMINE MELONS CAREFULLY FOR EVIDENCE OF STEM-END TREATMENT.

W. E. Lewis, on his return from southern watermelon districts, reports great carelessness on the part of many shippers in applying the stem-end treatment. He states that many cars go out of Georgia with only the melons between the doors treated. Some of the most reliable shippers are sending out cars of this kind. Most of the difficulty is due to incompetent labor or to lack of knowledge of the purpose of the treatment.

All Inspectors in receiving markets should examine melons carefully in all portions of the car in order to determine whether the load has been treated.

2c. SUNBURN ON THE UNDER SIDE OF MELONS.

Mr. Lewis further reports that some Georgia shippers are making a practice of turning over melons in the field, in order to prevent sunburn. This practice probably results in greater injury to the melons than would occur if the side which has become accustomed to the sun were left up. Heavy decay in a car received in Washington during the past week probably resulted from this practice. The decay in this car was described as follows:-

"Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of melons show decay on under sides, majority with a spot 2 to 4 inches in diameter, many melons with entire under side decayed; in some cases decayed spot sunken and partially dried."

Any cars of melons which show evidence of sunburn on under side should be given special attention, and conditions reported to Washington by letter.

3c. PEANUT INSPECTIONS GIVE SATISFACTION.

On his return from a trip through southern peanut sections, particularly Georgia and Alabama, Paul M. Williams advises that he interviewed quite a number of shippers and does not recall a single instance in which serious complaint was made on any inspection of peanuts within the past three years.

"This speaks very well for the Federal Inspection Service," continued Mr. Williams, "and should be an encouragement to the Inspectors who may sometimes wonder whether their work is appreciated as it should be. One party, perhaps the heaviest operator in that section, said: 'Well, Mr. Williams, I don't know how we could do business without the assistance of the Federal food products inspection service.'"

As is well known, the Southeastern Peanut Association has adopted the Federal grades for shelled White Spanish peanuts as a basis for all sales. One of its provisions is that, in case a shipment of peanuts is rejected, a Federal Inspector shall be called to determine the grade of the car and to state very definitely what percentage of defects the goods contain. In event the goods are found to be below the Federal standards, the Association has an automatic system of allowances in the purchaser's favor. These regulations, together with the trouble lately found with discolored nuts, place serious responsibility on the Inspector as the final arbiter in the matter. More than 250 inspections of peanuts were made during the last fiscal year.

4c. ANNUAL REPORT FOR LAST FISCAL YEAR.

Elsewhere in this D.L. are two of the annual tables, showing terminal market inspections by products and by months for the year ending in June, 1924. The data in these tables will bear careful study. Against the total of 29283 inspections the past year, there were 28,169 the year before and 31,207 in 1922.

5c. RECORD OF REINSPCTIONS, FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1924.

In connection with the annual report of inspections, the following figures are of interest.

	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Reinspections requested....	4	3	7	34	50	28	9	14	14	18	42	38	261
Original report sustained....	4	2	3	22	18	13	7	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	29	25	142
Original report reversed.....	0	1	4	12	32	15	2	7	6 $\frac{2}{3}$	13	13	13	119

6c. WEEKLY AND MONTHLY REPORTS.

Some offices have been putting only the date on the date line of their weekly and monthly reports. The name of the office should precede the date. Those in charge in Washington will have no difficulty in associating the report with the proper office through the name of the Inspector, but those who compile records and file such material do not have this information and need the name of the office in order to credit the report to the proper place.

7c. OUT-OF-TOWN REQUESTS AT PITTSBURGH.

In writing of the volume of work at Pittsburgh, J. J. Gardner said that the out-of-town requests last week resulted in the loss of quite a few inspections in Pittsburgh, principally express and railroad requests. Five inspections were made at Johnstown, Pa.; eleven at Youngstown, Ohio; one each at Greenville, Pa., and Sharon, Pa., making a total of 62 inspections from July 21 to 25 inclusive.

8c. CALIFORNIA INSPECTION SERVICE - SUGAR TEST OF GRAPES.

The following extract from the "Grape Inspection Circular" of the California service explains the method used by inspectors in determining the maturity of grapes:

Selection of Samples

As stated in another part of this circular, grade requirements apply specifically to each individual package in any lot. In the case of sugar content, this means that in juice grapes the average sugar content of the stock within any one container shall not be below the minimum stated in the grade being considered, and in table grapes that no single bunch shall be below such minimum.

As it would not be practicable to test many packages in any lot, a sample should be secured that, from all outward indications such as color, etc., would show the minimum sugar content in the lot, and in addition in juice grapes a sample should be taken which represents the average of the lot. Any stock showing great variations in any part of the lot should, of course, be tested separately.

It is obvious that the average test of an entire carlot, when some of the stock is very low and some very high, would not be a fair determination, as most carloads are sold out in small lots.

(Continued over)

Several methods are in use for obtaining the juice for tests. One of these consists of squeezing the grapes through cheesecloth. In another, a container with a strainer bottom is used; in this the stock is crushed by an instrument resembling a potato masher.

Occasionally juice is obtained by using an ordinary food grinder. Whatever method is used, the juice should be strained or allowed to settle, so that no floating particles of pulp or other matter will affect the test.

The cylinder is filled with enough juice to cause it to overflow and float off any bubbles or foam present, and saccharimeter is inserted. Care is taken that the instrument does not touch the sides of the cylinder. After the instrument has been in the liquid a sufficient time to settle and allow the thermometer to act, a reading of the scale is taken at a level with the liquid, care being taken not to read the thin film of liquid (meniscus) which tends to climb the stem. The thermometer is then read, and corrections applied to the scale reading.

The saccharimeter must be clean, as any sugar or dirt adhering to it will result in inaccurate readings.

The Balling scale saccharimeter used for this purpose has a thermometer attached, together with a correction scale for temperature. The instrument is standard at 60°F.

When the temperature is above 60°, the correction is additive; when below 60°, subtractive.

Examples:

(1) Scale reading: 19.5, temperature 86°, correction 0.9; then 19.5 plus 0.9 equals 20.4, the corrected reading.

(2) Scale reading: 18.5, temperature 38°F, correction 0.4; then 18.5 - 0.4 equals 18.1, the corrected reading.

Note: Above examples refer to the Saccharimeter made by the Taylor Co., and graduated 10° to 30°. It will be observed that the instrument now in use graduated 0° to 30° has no decimal points printed on the correction scale; the numbers, however, are decimals and should be used as such.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

(continued from Page 360)

OFFICE NOTES:

A recent wire from Cincinnati indicates that Inspector R. C. Rose has not yet been able to resume work, because of the condition of his health. A. H. Polster has remained in charge of Cincinnati inspections, and will continue on that work indefinitely. In the D.L. of three weeks ago, it was announced that Mr. Polster probably would proceed to the Chicago office, but this change has had to be deferred.

TERMINAL MARKET INSPECTIONS OF VEGETABLES, FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1924.

Product	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Artichokes.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	3	9	1	4	23
Asparagus.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	73	4	-	141
Beans.....	8	-	1	12	4	5	32	11	3	44	109	129	358
Beets.....	-	1	2	-	-	2	9	16	27	49	12	19	137
Broccoli.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	13
Brussels Sprouts.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	5
Cabbage.....	19	27	46	70	83	64	109	106	160	166	127	85	1062
Cantaloupes.....	144	74	21	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	55	91	398
Carrots.....	-	1	3	1	1	4	16	32	31	50	25	43	207
Casabas.....	-	2	1	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Cauliflower.....	5	1	2	23	21	24	9	52	30	5	-	1	173
Celery.....	5	7	7	41	65	37	81	59	38	73	14	13	440
Celery Cabbage...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Chicory.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	7	-	-	13
Collards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Corn (green).....	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	19
Cucumbers.....	11	4	1	4	2	1	8	1	3	4	52	107	198
Eggplant.....	3	1	-	1	1	2	4	4	3	4	5	2	30
Endive.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	6
Escarole.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	7
Garlic.....	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	11
Horse-radish.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
Honey Dews.....	2	-	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13
Kale.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	7	2	-	14
Lettuce.....	101	38	48	43	25	53	103	64	72	139	133	55	874
Mushrooms.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	6
Mustard.....	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	1	4	-	-	14
Okra.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Olives.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Onions.....	53	75	91	186	144	110	163	160	86	95	122	127	1412
Onion Sets.....	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	6
Parsley.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	4	2	2	14
Parsnips.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	2	3	-	-	11
Peas.....	9	-	1	-	2	-	1	2	4	19	80	12	130
Peppers.....	23	5	1	5	2	5	14	7	5	8	5	32	112
Potatoes.....	510	325	391	597	578	322	781	679	745	600	554	883	6965
Radishes.....	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	1	24
Rhubarb.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	31	11	-	46
Romaine.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	5
Rutabagas.....	-	-	2	1	-	4	4	9	6	4	1	-	31
Shallots.....	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	1	1	1	-	8
Spinach.....	-	-	-	3	2	9	60	93	115	80	8	-	370
Squash.....	2	-	1	4	11	6	1	1	1	1	1	2	31
Sweet Potatoes...	4	7	11	19	24	33	45	41	15	7	1	-	207
Tomatoes.....	79	18	8	44	69	36	66	99	92	94	169	205	979
Turnips.....	-	1	2	4	2	3	8	17	14	20	3	4	78
Watermelons.....	261	134	18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99	513
Mixed Vegetables.	2	1	-	-	-	13	7	3	12	9	7	15	69
TOTAL.....	1250	741	661	1084	1041	743	1560	1470	1565	1620	1517	1942	15194

TERMINAL MARKET INSPECTIONS OF FRUIT, FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1924.

Product	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Apples.....	70	88	171	853	938	652	892	959	879	499	204	50	6255
Apples, dehydrated.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Apples, crab.....	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Apricots.....	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	37
Bananas.....	3	10	5	3	4	9	10	7	-	2	8	21	82
Blackberries.....	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Cherries.....	252	35	-	-	13	-	-	-	1	2	175	426	904
Cranberries.....	-	-	-	3	-	6	3	-	2	-	-	-	14
Currants.....	29	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Figs.....	7	3	-	-	-	-	1*	-	-	-	-	9	20
Grapes.....	77	120	241	676	327	142	18	5	2	1	5	5	1619
Grapefruit.....	4	-	4	20	42	40	116	120	70	139	24	8	587
Guavas.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Lemons.....	16	4	-	1	2	4	6	6	2	5	29	32	107
Limes.....	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Nectarines.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Oranges.....	10	13	9	25	26	73	67	120	104	128	75	10	660
Peaches.....	269	254	248	44	-	1	-	1	3	-	2	63	885
Pears.....	46	71	104	112	110	38	33	45	13	17	2	3	594
Persimmons.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pineapples.....	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	17	28	51
Plums.....	54	18	30	16	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	13	135
Prunes.....	-	2	40	38	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82
Quinces.....	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Strawberries.....	19	-	-	-	-	-	9	10	7	307	713	478	1543
Other berries.....	43	15	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	15	87
Tangerines.....	-	1	-	-	1	13	10	10	1	-	-	-	36
Mixed Citrus.....	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	2	1	-	-	7
Mixed Fruits.....	-	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
Mxd. Frts. & Vgs.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	4
TOTAL.....	934	643	881	1799	1469	983	1167	1287	1091	1101	1262	1165	13782

*(dried)

INSPECTIONS OF NUTS

Cocoanuts.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Chestnuts.....	-	-	-	3	9	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Peanuts.....	10	1	6	13	45	31	21	38	31	16	24	16	252
Pecans.....	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	6
Walnuts.....	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL.....	10	4	6	16	57	40	23	38	31	16	25	16	282
Christmas Trees...	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Holly.....	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Holly Bulbs.....	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

RECAPITULATION

Total Vegetables	1250	741	661	1084	1041	743	1560	1470	1565	1620	1517	1942	15194
Total Fruits....	934	643	881	1799	1469	983	1167	1287	1091	1101	1262	1165	13782
Total Nuts.....	10	4	6	16	57	40	23	38	31	16	25	16	282
Miscellaneous...	-	-	-	-	3	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
GRAND TOTAL.....	2194	1338	1548	2899	2570	1738	2750	2795	2687	2737	2804	3123	29283

OFFICE NOTES:

A recent wire from Mr. Stillwell advises that he will be in Portland this Friday and Saturday; Seattle Monday, Spokane Tuesday, and Caldwell, Idaho, on Thursday and Friday, August 8 and 9.

G. E. Prince has spent this week in the Los Angeles office. Next week, he will substitute for J. R. Duncan, at Salt Lake City, and then proceed to the Northwest to make preparations for the resumption of market reports on apples at the Spokane office.

R. H. Lamb has left Denver, where he substituted for John D. Snow a few weeks, and will open the Grand Junction field station on Monday.

Leaving New York City by the end of this week, R. H. Shoemaker will proceed to Chicago and then take his annual leave, before opening the field station at Benton Harbor, Mich.

W. E. Mosier expects to leave Fort Worth by August 5, when Mr. Googe returns from his vacation. Until about the 18th, Mr. Mosier will substitute for L. H. Wulfekuhl, at Cincinnati, and will then go to Columbus to take his own leave.

Having substituted for J. K. Boyd, in Pittsburgh, R. L. Sutton returned to Washington early this week, and is now on leave at Ballston, Va. On Sunday, he will start for Pleasant Valley, Iowa, where he will assist Mr. Shirley with onion inspections until about August 14.

J. E. Dickerson, who was in charge of the inspection work on onions at Pleasant Valley, Iowa, returned to the Chicago office for a few days and will soon go to the onion districts of Indiana, to arrange for the inspection service in that territory. C. D. Shirley remained at Pleasant Valley.

P. D. Rupert left Washington for New York City last Friday evening. He is assisting with inspections in that market this week, and about August 4 will start shipping-point work on early apples and peaches at Hancock, Md.

F. E. Hooper, after reaching New York City, was sent to Boston to help with the inspection work in that territory for about two weeks.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., expects to reach Washington early next week. He stopped at Aberdeen, N. C., a few days en route from Georgia.

O. G. Strauss will proceed from Macon, Ga., to Indianapolis, Ind., where he will substitute for B. H. Rowell, while the latter goes on vacation, beginning about August 5.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., will spend a short period of leave in South Carolina and then go to Chicago, where he will take further training in inspection work.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. R. Hall and L.G. C. Peirce left Georgia on July 27, and J. W. Howard and A.S. Mason left a few days later, all bound for Chicago.

The five men just mentioned, together with G. W. Winfrey (now at Nashville, Ark.) and W. H. Hall, market reporter in Chicago, will constitute the new training class for inspectors, which will be started about August 15 in Chicago.

Robert Bier expects to complete the Georgia peach inspection deal this week, and return to Washington some time next week, for a period of leave.

W. E. Lewis returned to his desk in Washington on Monday, after having made investigations in watermelon grading and shipping in Florida and Georgia the past five weeks.

B. C. Boree, at present in charge of the Market News headquarters in Washington, will be on leave all of next week, August 3 to 9. J. W. Park returned from his cantaloupe investigations in North Carolina, and will handle Mr. Boree's work during his absence. Later, Mr. Park will proceed to the more northern cantaloupe-shipping districts, to complete his studies.

Mr. Samson was back at his desk yesterday, after a five-day automobile trip to New York City and vicinity.

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Robb will go to Chicago on Monday, August 4, for a conference with railroad officials regarding inspection work. While there, Mr. Robb will assist in making preliminary arrangements for the inspection training class and for the various assignments in fall shipping-point work in the central States.

W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector, will go from New York City early next week on a 10 days' vacation to various points in Virginia, after which he will proceed to Chicago for conference regarding the training course to be given Inspectors.

F. S. Zimmerman, who was supervising inspections at shipping points in Delaware, has returned to his headquarters in New York for two weeks. He will resume the work at Dover, Delaware, about the middle of August, when the later shipments start moving.

On August 3, J. B. Wright will sail on a Naval vessel from San Pedro to San Francisco. From that point, he will go to Vallejo and relieve S. H. Fountain, Navy Inspector, while Mr. Fountain takes annual leave.

Other Inspectors now on leave include the following:- W.C. Hangstafer, of New York City staff. G.C. Bayley, of the Detroit office. T. L. Kelly, Navy Inspector in Philadelphia; Herman Beckenstrater is handling Mr. Kelly's work in his absence.

J.J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, advises that his residence telephone number has been changed from Lafayette 4340-R to Lafayette 0193-R. Please note this change on your list of Inspectors.

August 1, 1924.

FEDERAL AND COOPERATIVE MEN ENGAGED IN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK:
(subject to change)

NORTH CAROLINA: A. E. Mercker, Aberdeen, N. C.

VIRGINIA:..... F. E. Parsons, 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond, Va.

MARYLAND:..... P. D. Rupert, Hancock, Md.)

DELAWARE:..... F. S. Zimmerman, c/o State Bureau of Markets, Dover, Del.
(after Aug. 12)

NEW JERSEY:..... W. V. Stephens, Coles Hotel, Moorestown, N. J.

INDIANA: J. E. Dickerson, _____

IOWA:..... C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Iowa.
R. L. Sutton, Pleasant Valley, Iowa (until 8/14).

MISSOURI:..... O. N. Harsha, Orrick, Mo.

KANSAS:..... J. H. Hoover, c/o County Agent, Topeka, Kans.

ARKANSAS:..... J. A. Marks, Nashville, Ark.
G. W. Winfrey, Nashville, Ark.

LOUISIANA:..... F. J. Baehler, c/o State Extension Service, Baton Rouge, La.

TEXAS:..... H. T. Longino, Pittsburg, Texas.

OKLAHOMA:..... R. C. Lindstrom, c/o State Mkt. Commission, Okla. City, Okla.

NEBRASKA:..... V. V. Westgate, 435 Keeline Bldg., Omaha, Nebr.

COLORADO:..... E. F. McKune, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
P. A. Cauble, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
G. W. Dyer, Delta, Colo.

UTAH:..... N. D. Sanborn, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Salt Lake City, Utah.

CALIFORNIA:..... W. F. Allewelt, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
C. H. Beasley, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Watsonville,
F. C. Cadwallader, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Turlock.
H. F. Larson, 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles.
C. E. Linwood, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Fresno.
K. R. Nutting, c/o State Dept. of Agr., Sebastopol.
H. W. Peterson, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento.
E. J. Powell, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento.
F. A. Powell,
S. S. Rogers, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento.

WASHINGTON:..... F. E. Bailey, 423 Federal Bldg., Spokane, Wash.
W. L. Close, Court House, Yakima, Wash.

IDAHO:..... L. G. Schultz, State Dept. of Agr., Boise, Idaho.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 32

August 8, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. APPLE UNLOADS IN PENNSYLVANIA CITIES.

W. C. Lynn, cooperative inspector in Pennsylvania, wrote the following release concerning apples in that State:

"The 1923 receipts of Pennsylvania apples in the largest 15 markets in this State were more than double those of 1922, as shown by statistics obtained recently by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets. Last year 7,434 cars of apples were unloaded in the 15 cities, of which 11%, or 840 cars, originated in this State, while in 1922 the total receipts amounted to 6,326 cars, 6% of which, or 397 cars, were Pennsylvania apples. The 1923 receipts were about equal to the 7,476 cars of 1921, when Pennsylvania again supplied about 6% of the total. Total shipments of apples from Pennsylvania points in 1923 were 3,500 cars.

"New York and Washington led all other States in supplying the larger Pennsylvania markets with apples in carload lots. Valuable records obtained for three years show that these two States supply about two-thirds of the carlot apples. Approximately 70% of the receipts in 1921 came from these States; in 1922 they supplied 73%, and last year they dropped to 62%, the decrease being partly balanced by more Pennsylvania apples. The cities showing the largest increases in Pennsylvania receipts were Bethlehem, Johnstown, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

"Arrivals from Virginia soared from 84 cars in 1922 to 464 last year, most of these going through the Philadelphia market. West Virginia and Maryland likewise jumped, a considerable proportion of the 327 cars from West Virginia going through Pittsburgh and two-thirds of the 234 Maryland cars being unloaded in Philadelphia. Apple receipts from Michigan totaled 113 cars, or double the 1922 unloads. These consisted of early fall apples and the majority were sold in Pittsburgh, although Wilkes-Barre and Scranton absorbed 24 cars between them. Delaware apples appeared in about the same quantity as in 1922.

"Over 2,300 cars of apples came from the western boxed-apple States during the year. This necessitated a freight expenditure of over \$1,000,000. With New York furnishing 34% of the carlot receipts in the 15 large markets, the western boxed-apple States 31%, and Pennsylvania only 11%, it is readily seen that producers and shippers in this State must center their efforts along the marketing line in order to get back into their own home markets, and the first factor to be considered is better grading and packing."

AUGUST CROP ESTIMATES ON PRINCIPAL FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WERE RELEASED YESTERDAY.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. POTATO UNLOADS IN PENNSYLVANIA CITIES.

Porter R. Taylor, Director of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, recently released the following article to the press:

"About 17,000 carloads of potatoes were required to feed the population of 15 Pennsylvania cities during 1923, in addition to the millions of bushels supplied directly from Pennsylvania farms, according to figures compiled by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets from railroad records. The exact receipts during 1923 amounted to 16,974 cars, as compared with 16,501 the preceding year and 15,530 cars in 1921, showing a steady increase each year.

"The outlet that Pennsylvania markets offer producers is clearly shown in the record of 6,991 cars of potatoes received at these markets from Maine, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, which are the important competing areas of Pennsylvania in late potato production. This volume is almost double the 3,599 cars shipped from all points in Pennsylvania during 1923.

"Prices paid for Pennsylvania stock are determined largely by sales in the northern States, with freight added to our markets. The advantage which Pennsylvania growers have in local markets over producers in the more northern States, except New York, amounts to 23-48¢ per bushel in freight charges alone.

"Over 800 cars less of Pennsylvania potatoes were unloaded in 1923 than in 1922, chiefly because of a decrease of 1,600 cars in shipments, resulting from the increased use of the motor truck within the State and from market conditions. Philadelphia continued its preference for Pennsylvania stock, using 1,569 cars as compared with Pittsburgh's 245 cars. Only 13% of the total receipts came from Pennsylvania points in 1923, while in previous years practically 19% was from that source. This is in addition to the large volume of local sales, the 1923 crop in the State having totaled 26,145,000 bushels.

"Michigan displaced New Jersey from second place, supplying 2,169 cars, 1,504 being received at Pittsburgh and 279 at Philadelphia. As usual, Virginia had little competition during the early summer and furnished 2,136 cars. Philadelphia received about half of this number, but all of the cities received a considerable supply from this source. Nearness to market gave New York fourth place with 1,876 cars, which were used chiefly in Philadelphia, Scranton and Pittsburgh.

"New Jersey and Maine ranked next with 1,641 and 1,581 cars, most of the latter being received at Philadelphia. Two States of particular interest were Wisconsin, which reported 998 cars, and Minnesota with 367 cars, in spite of the freight rates of 26¢ and 36¢, respectively, into the Pittsburgh market and larger amounts to points farther east.

"Philadelphia used half of the total receipts for the State, reporting 8,519 cars, as compared with 4,306 cars unloaded at Pittsburgh. Scranton with 1,158 and Wilkes-Barre with 734 cars easily outranked Harrisburg with 352 cars, Altoona with 295, and Reading with 287 cars. Allentown, Bethlehem, Erie, Reading, Williamsport and York were conspicuous in their dependence on local or near-by supplies of potatoes."

2b. INCLUDE SHIPMENTS IN F.O.B. WIRES.

All field station representatives are requested to show in f.o.b. wires the division totals on shipment information for first 10 days after opening any station. Experience proves that, if reporters are checked promptly during the first few days, there is less likelihood of further discrepancies. The mail check now being used is not showing satisfactory results, because it is too slow. Field men need not send in the mail reports of shipments hereafter, but every man opening a new station should remember to add the shipments to his f.o.b. wire for 10 days. Stations that have opened quite recently also should report by wire for several days.

3b. NOTICES REGARDING EMBARGOES.

Effective August 14, field station representatives will be advised telegraphically, as part of shipment information from Washington, regarding notices of embargoes filed by railroads on crops in which stations are interested. The effective dates of embargoes and of cancellations will be shown. Care should be taken by our field men that cancellation of embargoes be published, so that shippers will be kept advised of when previously embargoed markets are open. As some of the embargoes are conditional or partial, information should be published in bulletins exactly as sent out by Washington. Repeat the information daily in bulletins until notice of cancellation is received.

4b. LOW PRICES FOR VIRGINIA POTATOES.

Eastern Shore of Virginia farmers seem to be "up against it" this year. Claiming that the low prices for potatoes were resulting in a net loss to themselves, mass meetings were held last week throughout the peninsula of Virginia and Maryland, according to a newspaper clipping received from E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office. At these gatherings, an ultimatum seems to have been agreed upon to the following effect: "A Living Price for our Crop or We Will Let It Rot!" A minimum f.o.b. price of \$2.00 per barrel apparently was the unanimous sentiment of the various meetings.

It is quite interesting to note the outcome of this matter: From 3450 cars of Eastern Shore of Virginia potatoes during the week ending July 19, shipments decreased the following week to about 2,150 cars and the next week to 1,860 cars. Mr. Biddle suggests that these meetings of growers and the resultant decision doubtless helped to reduce the number of cars shipped. For about a week after the ultimatum was issued, the f.o.b. price remained at \$2.00 or more, but during the last few days the situation has again lapsed and latest quotations are \$1.50-1.75. Many cars are being rolled unsold.

Read Mr. Biddle's interesting article on Virginia potatoes in "Crops and Markets" for August 2, page 71.

5b. TWO ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES.

The following additional field station summaries are being distributed: SUMMARY OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL NEW YORK ONION DEAL, Season of 1923-24, and SUMMARY OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL NEW YORK CABBAGE DEAL, Season of 1923-24, both written by C. L. Brown. The first contains 10 pages and the second 22 pages.

6b. NORTH CAROLINA PEACHES GO TO LONDON.

Early this week the following article was prepared and released by George R. Ross, Chief of the N. C. Division of Markets:-

"Two carloads of the famous Sandhill peaches rolled out of the Jackson Springs section this afternoon (August 5), bound for London. Never before has Royalty had this delicious North Carolina fruit, both its bloom and sweetness wafted across to them.

"One car is loaded with 960 packages, each containing 50 beautiful peaches of the Hale variety, grown and packed at the Manice Orchard, bearing the brand of the Manice Orchard, the Blue Goose of the American Fruit Growers, and the stamp of the Federal-State inspectors, placing them in the class of U. S. No.1 Fancy.

"The other car is loaded with 448 crates, all of the Elberta variety, grown and packed by the Derby Orchard. Each peach that went into these crates was the best that the growers could select from their large harvest.

"These shipments are being personally handled by W. M. Scott, of the American Fruit Growers. The cars moved out over the Norfolk-Southern to Aberdeen. There they are delivered to the Seaboard Air Line Railway, where they will be re-iced in Raleigh, arriving in New York City Friday morning, August 8. Then they will be transferred to the steamer 'Olympic' and started again. They go to the city of London, where they will be offered for sale on August 18.

"This is the first shipment of peaches from North Carolina to England. The growers, Edward A. Manice and Roger A. Derby, have contemplated for sometime just such a movement in an attempt to widen the market for Sandhill peaches. No doubt but what the sale of these excellent peaches will bring much credit to North Carolina.

"It is interesting to know that at the Hamlet Peach Show, the Commissioner of Agriculture boasted that, within five years, the port of Wilmington would be carrying Sandhill peaches under refrigeration across the water. The carload of Hales from the Manice Orchard was personally inspected by the Federal shipping-point inspector and will carry with it a certificate of the true condition of the fruit in the car upon its shipment from the shed at West End."

7b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 2:

Page 69 - Market for Apples in Hongkong.

- Marketing Michigan Cherries.

70 - Special paragraphs on watermelons in the weekly review.

- Western New York peaches in storage. (filler)

71 - Virginia Potato Shipments Heavy, - by E. R. Biddle.

- Dry Weather in Northwest, - by R. L. Ringer.

- First arrivals of new sweet potatoes. (filler)

72 - Watermelons in Central Georgia, - by F. H. Scruggs.

- California Leading Pear State, - based on summary by C. E. Schultz.

- Early Potatoes in Idaho, - based on summary by A. E. Prugh.

- Minnesota Potato Growers Buy Warehouse.

76 - The Transvaal Grows Peanuts.

- Australian orchardists have new market outlet. (filler)

80 - Mediterranean Almond Crop.

J. W. PARK,
Assistant in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will close
RALEIGH, N. C.** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries* Lettuce* S. Beans* Potatoes* Dewberries* Cucumbers* Peaches Cantaloupes* Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 15 July 28	May 28* June 2* June 21* July 5* June 27* July 3* Aug. 12 July 30* Aug. 15
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 14	Aug. 15
CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
FRESNO, CALIF. Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 29	Nov. 29
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Aug. 30
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 6 Aug. 7 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Oct. 4 Sept. 20 Oct. 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 18	Sept. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Grapes Apples Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 28 Aug. 28 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18
SPOKANE, WASH.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 1	Mar. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	833	R. M. Peterson	Peaches	June 2	<u>Closed</u> Aug. 2
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* Report discontinued.

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

W. H. Mosier - in Cincinnati office.
R. H. Shoemaker - on leave.
A. E. Prugh - on leave.

R. L. Sutton - Pleasant Valley, Ia.
G. E. Prince - Salt Lake City office.
R. M. Peterson - Atlanta office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. POTATO AND PRUNE SITUATION IN IDAHO.

In a letter dated August 1, L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho, wrote as follows concerning potatoes and prunes:

"I had hoped to be able to report that the potato movement was increasing this week, but if anything it is falling off from day to day. If the price had remained at \$1.00, there would have been quite a heavy movement this week, but now indications are that it will be quiet for several days at least.

"The drouth situation has not up to date damaged the potato crop to any great extent, except in one or two localities where it has reduced the yield somewhat. In Malheur County, Oregon, where there is plenty of water, the crops look fine and the fields of potatoes that have been dug have returned good yields.

"The prunes in that section also look much better than in the Boise Valley, where the drouth and water shortage has greatly damaged the prospects. At the present time, it is estimated that there will be not to exceed 1,000 cars in this entire district, including Malheur County. This is against about 2,500 cars last season. It seems that the lack of humidity, as well as insufficient irrigation, affects the prunes more quickly than most other crops, and they are dropping badly, turning red and showing gum exudation, especially where the red spiders were bad. They cause the leaves to curl and permit the direct rays of the sun to hit the fruit, with the results noted above.

"A check of the largest operators in the Canyon County deal indicates that practically all cars of potatoes will be shipped under inspection this season. This will also include the 'Parmaho' brand, which was shipped last year without inspection. The only cars on which inspection will not be ordered will be those clearly out of grade and perhaps some that are consigned. It is hard to estimate the number of cars at this time, for until digging becomes general it is impossible to determine the approximate yield, but it is safe to say that the total shipments from the early deal will be under last year."

2c. CALIFORNIA INSPECTORS USE MANY AUTOMOBILES.

The California Inspection Service has just replaced seven wornout automobiles with new Studebakers, and has purchased five additional Studebaker cars. This makes a total of 23 State-owned automobiles in use by the service at this time, in addition to which the purchase of seven other cars will be made in the near future.

3c. OVER \$10,000 FEDERAL FEES FROM CALIFORNIA.

W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the California Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, has just approved a bill of \$10,946.32 to the Food Products Inspection Service, which is in payment of the Federal fees for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, as provided under the cooperative agreement between the California State Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture.

ALL INSPECTORS, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE FIELD, SHOULD NOTE CAREFULLY WHETHER THE D.L. REACHES THEM REGULARLY. REQUEST A COPY OF ANY MISSING NUMBERS.

4c. INSPECTION OF TEXAS PEACHES.

H. T. Longino, who has been supervising the inspection of peaches in northeast Texas, with headquarters recently at Mt. Vernon, expects to complete that deal by the end of this week. He is using seven inspectors who were with him on the East Texas tomato deal, and probably will have a total of 250 cars by the close of the season. The middle of last week, Mr. Longino made a visit to College Station, where he addressed a meeting held at the A. & M. College. County Agents from all over the State were present, as well as Western Weighing Bureau men and Freight Claim Agents from all the railroads. Mr. Longino's part in this short horticultural course was to discuss the Terminal and Shipping-Point Inspection Service, especially the latter.

5c. NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA PEACH DEAL.

The North Carolina peach inspection work is in full swing, but total shipments likely will be only 1,800 cars instead of the 2,500 originally expected. In a letter of August 6, A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector, advised: "The weather here at Aberdeen is very cool and the maturing of the peach crop is delayed and drawn out over a longer period. There is very little poorly-colored stock, and practically all growers are working to get out a good grade and pack."

On another page of this D.L. is an item about the Federal-inspected peaches that are now en route to the London market.

6c. PEACH INSPECTIONS STARTING IN VIRGINIA.

Under date of August 2, F. Earl Parsons wrote from Richmond, Va. that he would have one inspector stationed at Timberville, Va., this week and three more men next week at Crozet, Charlottesville and Monroe, Va., on peaches, etc.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned from Chicago yesterday morning and Mr. Robb this morning. They met in conference with representatives of western railroads regarding the possible increased use of the Inspection Service by carriers in terminal markets. A meeting also was held with representatives of the Federated F. & V. Growers on the marketing of products of the Minnesota Potato Growers Exchange the coming season. Mr. Robb remained in Chicago the extra day for conference with Messrs. Butner and Russell regarding proposed revisions in the Inspectors' Handbook.

Taking annual leave in the Northwest, Mr. Stillwell expects to make a tour of Yellowstone National Park from August 9 to 14. He probably will reach the Salt Lake City office by the 15th; Grand Junction, Colo., on the 16th and 17th, and Denver on August 18.

The first five days of this week were spent by W. C. Hackleman in the Washington office, before he goes on a week's leave in Virginia. He plans to reach Chicago by August 18, where he will assist in training the class of Inspectors which will be started on the 12th.

Herbert Graff is acting as supervisor in the New York office during Mr. Hackleman's absence. Mr. Graff will handle these duties until about Sept. 1.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. R. Pailthorp left Washington on Wednesday, and will arrive at Spokane by Monday. He has returned to the Pacific Northwest for about two months, in order to line up the various apple shippers in continuing their reports on rejections. Mr. Pailthorp can be reached through the Spokane office.

Mr. Samson will leave this Saturday for Gainesville, Fla., where he will attend meetings in connection with Farmers' and Fruit Growers' Week, to be held at the State College of Agriculture. He is scheduled to discuss standardization work, especially as it relates to citrus fruits, at the session on Tuesday afternoon. Those in charge of this general gathering expect about 1,500 persons to be in attendance.

George A. DeHaven will leave Georgia within a few days and proceed to Chicago, where he will substitute for W. H. Hall, while the latter takes the training course in inspection work.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., stopped at the Washington office for a day the early part of this week, en route to Syracuse, N. Y., where he will spend his vacation. Mr. Conklin has been on standardization work in Florida, Georgia and other parts of the South for about eight months. He can be addressed at 116 W. Kennedy St., Syracuse, until the latter part of August.

H. A. Spilman returned on Monday from his eight weeks' trip to the West in the interest of standard containers. He gave special attention to western crates and their specifications.

B. E. Shaffer stopped at the Washington office last Saturday, en route by automobile from Georgia to Chicago. He will now be a member of the Chicago inspection staff, and for the next two weeks will substitute for H. A. Arenz, at Milwaukee. Mr. Arenz will be on vacation.

P. D. Rupert spent the first few days of this week at Hancock, Md., preparatory to the inspection of apples and peaches in that territory. Because of the delay in shipments, he has come to Washington for a short period, and will later return to Hancock to begin inspections.

Since the closing of Macon field station on peaches last Saturday, R. M. Peterson has gone to Atlanta, where he will substitute for T. C. Curry while the latter is on two weeks' leave. Mr. Peterson will continue to issue peach reports from Atlanta, until the close of the deal in North Georgia.

Aaron Stambaugh, who assisted Mr. Callanan and later Mr. Peterson at the Macon office, returned to Washington on Monday. He has now gone on a short period of leave at Troy, N. Y.

On completion of the peach inspection work in Texas, H. T. Longino will proceed next week to New Orleans, where he will handle the local inspections during the absence of C. R. Newton on annual leave. Mr. Newton's vacation begins on August 18. En route to New Orleans, Mr. Longino himself will take a few days' leave.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

W. C. Lynn, of the Pennsylvania staff, has gone from Harrisburg to Wilkes-Barre to relieve L. D. Mills, cooperative inspector, while the latter is on vacation in New York State from August 1 to 16.

A new cooperative appointee in Pennsylvania is D. W. Buck, a 1924 graduate from Pennsylvania State College. He will handle the market reporting work in Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, formerly done by Mr. Mills, as the inspections in that territory now occupy most of Mr. Mills' time.

Mrs. Doris S. Ireland, clerk in the Portland office, has been granted three months' furlough, beginning August 1.

F. E. Kast, of the New York inspection office, and Mrs. Kast, employed in the New York market news office, are on vacation until the middle of August. A. W. Moloney, Navy Inspector at Brooklyn, has returned from his leave, and F. Wolfarth, also Navy Inspector, will be on vacation the last half of August.

Last week's D.L. was in error in stating that F. E. Hooper would assist with inspection work in Boston for two weeks only. W. H. Steinbauer is on leave the first part of August, and G. W. Payne will take his leave the last half of the month, so that Mr. Hooper will be substituting in Boston probably until the early part of September.

In the D.L. for July 11, the "appointment" of A. C. Hill, by transfer from the Federal Horticultural Board in New York City, was announced. Since that time, the Horticultural Board finds that it can get no one to take Mr. Hill's place, and is obliged to refuse him permission to withdraw from service of that Board. Mr. Hill's name, therefore, should be cancelled from all lists of Inspectors.

On Wednesday, F. M. Patton made a trip to Suffolk, Va., where he is having special tabulations of peanut shipments made for Mr. Clay's use.

The Denver office of the News Service has started the publication of daily market reports on lettuce and cabbage for the benefit of growers and shippers in that territory.

Miss Anna M. Fuoshee was transferred from Center Market, Washington, on August 1, to fill a vacancy in Mrs. Mills' office. She will assist with the fiscal and personnel work.

Please make the following changes in the list of shipping-point inspectors, attached to last week's Division Letter:

F. S. Zimmerman, who was announced to return to Dover, Delaware, by the middle of August, will remain in New York City until mid-September. The fall apple shipments from Delaware will not move until September.

N. D. Sanborn, listed at Salt Lake City, Utah, will return to the Denver office within a few days. He will start the supervision of Colorado cantaloupe inspections at an early date.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. J. Baehler, who was listed under Louisiana, left that State last week, and returned to the Chicago office. He has since proceeded to Salt Lake City, where he will succeed Mr. Sanborn as supervisor of Utah inspections.

EXCELLENT PROGRESS MADE BY DOMESTIC WOOL SECTION.

Wool growers have thus far received refunds aggregating \$444,574.93 from the excess profits collected by this Department from dealers who handled the 1918 wool clip under the Government regulations which fixed the price of wool and limited the profits that might be made. This work of collecting and distributing excess wool profits was transferred from the War Industries Board to the Department of Agriculture by Executive Order dated December 31, 1918. Since that time Congress has made annual appropriations to complete the work. Incidentally, this effort to keep faith with the growers is proving profitable to the Government, for offsetting the \$103,595.00 expended since December 31, 1918, from appropriations made by Congress, we already know that \$200,000 of the money collected will remain undistributable through the impossibility of locating the growers, making a net gain to the Government up to this time of nearly \$100,000.

Total excess profits of \$1,484,207.99 have been found to have been made on the 1918 season's wool operations. Of this amount \$748,829.22 has been collected, the balance of practically an equivalent amount being due from only 58 dealers. Many of these dealers are resisting payment, making suits in Federal courts necessary. Ninety per cent of the three-quarters of a million dollars awaiting collection is payable by 12 dealers. The efforts of this Department are directed particularly at this time toward expediting and assisting in the trials of pending cases. All cases thus far reached for argument, or for trial, have been decided in favor of the Government.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

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(Contents Confidential)

1a. ENGLISH AND CANADIAN APPLE OUTLOOK.

Under date of August 8, a special statement was issued on the outlook for apples in England and Canada. This was distributed to market reporters, but is published below for the information of all F. & V. Division men:

"The official estimate of the English apple crop is put at about 70% of last year's yield. The 1923 production estimate was 3,608,889 barrels, making the 1924 crop about 2,500,000 barrels.

"Cabled advices from Edward A. Foley, American Agricultural Commissioner at London, state that the current crop in the counties of Essex, Lincoln, Cambridge, and Norfolk is 50% below last year. Kent, Middlesex and Somerset report a 10% decrease and Worcester 30%. Cooking apples are 20% to 30% below the 1923 yield. Cider apples fell off 20% to 40%. Dessert varieties have made a light to poor crop.

"June estimates of the Canadian apple crop place yields at 3,716,630 barrels, which is about 16.6% below the 1923 figure of 4,459,850 barrels. Fruit crops are largely determined at the time the blossoms fall in the spring. There is little change, therefore, for a revision of these figures other than downward, either in Canada or England. With fewer Canadian apples offering competition in England and a short domestic crop, the outlook in English markets for American apples is good."

2a. POTATO FARMERS TO BE PAID FOR HOME STORAGE.

Three cents per bushel will be allowed to members of the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange, St. Paul, Minn., for storing their potatoes on their own farms, according to reports received by the Division of Agricultural Cooperation. An additional one cent per bushel per month will be allowed for each month or fraction thereof that potatoes stay on the farm. This will make it possible for farmers to receive a bonus of nine cents a bushel, if potatoes are stored until spring. A campaign to increase the amount of farm storage of potatoes is being carried on by the Exchange with the assistance of the agricultural papers, the Extension Service of the College of Agriculture, and the State Department of Agriculture. It is pointed out by officials that the sum received for storage by many farmers may be enough to pay for a permanent root cellar.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 9:

Page 85 - Norfolk Section cabbage shipments. (filler)

86 - Special paragraph on potatoes in weekly review.

- Apple Shipments Less than Last Season.

87 - Colorado Bean Crop Important. (based on summary by State Statistician; with shipment table for four years)

88 - California Grape Situation, - by C. E. Schultz.

- Fewer California Peaches Moving. (based on summary by C. E. Schultz)

- Smyrna Raisin Crop.

91 - Sweet Potato Season Opening.

(D.L. Page 371)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ONION SITUATION IN NORTHERN INDIANA.

On August 12, W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, sent the following information on Indiana onion prospects:

"On Friday afternoon, August 8th, in company with Mr. Butner, I made a trip to the onion producing territory around Rensselaer, Ind., for the purpose of looking over the crop and arranging for a daily f.o.b. onion wire this fall and winter. While there I also attended a meeting of onion growers, at which both Mr. Dickerson, Supervising Inspector, and Mr. Butner spoke on the various phases of the grading of onions.

"There are seven counties in Indiana that are regarded as onion growing counties, extending across the northern part of the State in a northeasterly direction from Jasper County, on the west, almost to the Ohio State line on the east. In some of these counties there has been an excess of rain this season, while in other counties, including Jasper, there has been a scarcity of rainfall. On August 7th and 8th, however, there was a general rain in most sections where there had been a drouth, and, as the crop is generally late, it is the opinion of those consulted that the yield will be materially increased over estimates of a week or two ago.

"Some growers figure the average for their crop as high as 600 or 700 bushels to the acre, while others say their crop will not average more than 250 to 300 bushels. After making due allowances, it is believed that 325 to 350 bushels per acre for the entire State is a fair average. The crop is made up of about 80% yellows, 15% whites and 5% reds.

"It is expected that first carlot shipments will be made the latter part of this week, but heavy movement will not start until September. There has been but little buying to date, as growers are unwilling to sell at prices offered, - 50¢ to 65¢ per bushel for U. S. 1 yellows. The Indiana Onion Growers' Exchange estimates that they will handle at least 1,000 cars this season. They have made arrangements to have all cars inspected under the supervision of this Bureau. Mr. Dickerson is in charge of the work there, and maintains headquarters at Warsaw."

2b. KEARNEY DISTRICT HOLDING POTATOES.

H. E. Rutland, in charge of the field station at Kearney, wrote as follows on August 5:

"Growers in the Kearney district of Nebraska seem at present determined to keep their potatoes, unless they can get what they think is a reasonable price for them. So far, only four cars have been shipped. Ordinarily, 25 or more cars would have been shipped by this time of the year. Last season, 23 cars had moved, and that was considered a light output.

"The Central Nebraska Potato Growers' Association, with headquarters here, controls about 90% of the total acreage in this district. They have been asking \$1.25 per sack for the past week, but so far have been unable to touch this figure. The cars sold have ranged from \$1.10 to \$1.20. Growers decline to disturb themselves or their fields, unless they get their price.

"Today, it looks as if things might loosen up a bit. There was a very heavy rain last night and it has been raining during the day, and some express the opinion that stocks will suffer unless they are harvested soon. Two sales were made today at \$1.10, and this may be the breaking of the deadlock that has existed for the past ten days."

3b. MICHIGAN CHERRIES IN NEW YORK.

V. D. Callanan, now in charge of the New York office, gave the following report in a letter of August 12:

"Believe you will be interested to hear that we received on Monday probably the first car of Michigan cherries sold in New York for some time. It was consigned to R. T. Cochran & Co. and sold at auction as follows:- Schmidt Bigarreus; 970 lugs \$2.80; 175 crates \$2.10. It was evident that the packers attempted to put up a California pack but were unsuccessful, as most crates showed a disarranged and somewhat slack pack. In addition, stock showed some decay. The returns were not sufficient to net a profit to the shipper, and it is not believed that New York will receive any great supply of cherries from Michigan this season."

4b. ST. LOUIS MARKET RECEIVES HONEY BALL MELONS.

In a letter of August 6, V. G. Gibson, market reporter in St. Louis, gave the following excellent description of the Texas Honey Ball melons which arrived in that market:

"The first receipts of the much-talked-of Honey Ball cantaloupes arrived on this market yesterday afternoon and this morning. On account of being a new variety of melons, they sold very slowly. The melons were apparently of full slip, but, due to irregularity of size in the crates, they had shifted around and showed effects of considerable bruising on the outside. However, when these melons were cut, there was no apparent injury on the inside and the seeds were well in place.

"Two different shipping organizations sent these cars. One car was shipped by the J. R. Fleming Company, Weatherford, Texas, in Tarrant County; and the other car was sent by the Texas Honey Ball Association of Ft. Worth. Melons from the latter organization were packed much better than those of the former. Apparently they had taken considerably more care in the sizing of their melons. The stock sent by the Fleming Company was placed in crates $22\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, inside measure, and in no instance did the stock appear to fill the crates. It looked as if another layer of melons could have been placed in the crates with but little difficulty. They ranged in size from 10 and 11 to 20 and 24 melons per crate, and in some of the crates containing 15 and 16 there were melons that could easily have been packed 25 or 30 to the crate, alongside of others that would not have packed more than 12.

"This irregularity of size has been the big kick so far among the dealers, and they are still doubtful as to what this stock will do on the St. Louis market. Today's sales ranged \$1.25-1.75, with wide range in quality, some being good and of very fine flavor and texture, others being poor, poor-tasting and of a leathery consistency. Under ordinary circumstances, this latter condition might be the result of having been pulled too soon, but, since all the melons were very clearly of full slip, it would appear to be more or less the natural quality of the melon itself.

"It's going to be very interesting to note in just what volume orders for this stock will be repeated, but further observation will not be possible until the latter part of this week or the middle of next week."

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
FRESNO, CALIF. Sequoia Hotel	919	G. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
KEARNEY, NEBR. Post Office Bldg.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Aug. 30
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Oct. 4 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 18	Sept. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Grapes Apples Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 28 Aug. 28 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18
SPOKANE, WASH.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 2	Mar. 15

The following stations close on date indicated:

RALEIGH, N. C. ** 312 Agricultural Bldg.	805	J. D. Evers	Berries Lettuce S. Beans Potatoes Dewberries Cucumbers Peaches Cantaloupes Watermelons	May 6 May 20 June 2 June 6 June 9 June 12 June 23 July 15 July 28	Closed May 28 June 2 June 21 July 5 June 27 July 3 Aug. 15 July 30 Aug. 13
MACON, GA.** Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	Watermelons	July 14	Aug. 15

** State Department cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

W. H. Mosier - in Cincinnati office.
R. H. Shoemaker - on leave.
A. E. Prugh - on leave.
F. H. Scruggs - on leave.

G. E. Prince - Salt Lake City office.
R. M. Peterson - Atlanta office.
J. D. Evers - Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. TEXAS HONEY BALL MELONS IN CHICAGO.

Melvin A. Russell, of the Chicago inspection staff, included the following information in a letter of August 12:

"You may be interested to know that, during the past week, we have inspected four cars of Texas Honey Ball melons. This is the new variety that has attracted some comment and was mentioned in a recent Division Letter. According to advance reports, these melons are supposed to have remarkable carrying qualities and are capable of withstanding a great deal more rough handling than other varieties. Judging from the condition of the melons which we inspected, the packers have overestimated the ability of these melons to withstand rough usage. In all four cars our inspectors found very high percentages of bruised melons. The pack was very irregular, and in many instances it was felt that the bruising resulted from slack pack. The general nature and distribution of the damage, however, tends to indicate that some of it at least must have occurred before packing. It must be admitted that these melons, even when badly bruised, are not particularly damaged so far as edibility is concerned, as the outer rind can be badly bruised without causing the edible portion to become mushy. But in all four cars inspected the bruising did detract greatly from the appearance of the stock. The inspectors in this office are quite well agreed on the fact that the Honey Ball melon has a remarkably fine flavor. It appears that, even when in prime eating condition, the pulp of the melon remains very firm, about as firm as that of an immature melon of the Salmon Tint type."

2c. EXPERIMENTAL SHIPMENTS TO SAMOA.

C. J. Hansen, Navy Inspector at San Francisco, has made some interesting experiments in the wrapping of vegetables shipped to Tutuila. He tells of the results in a letter of August 7:

"The Navy Department has always experienced considerable difficulty in the shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to the Naval Station located at Tutuila, Samoa.

"I have done some experimenting with the various commodities, to the extent of wrapping them in paper, both ordinary and waxed. The Supply Officer in Tutuila reports that there is no material difference, so far as he could see, between the plain and the waxed paper. However, he advised that the condition of cauliflower and celery individually wrapped was far superior to that unwrapped. I experimented with wrapping lettuce in both plain and waxed paper but, according to his report, there is no difference in either the plain or the waxed paper as compared to that unwrapped. We have found that, for this shipment, dry lettuce carries better than the iced. This may be because the temperature in the ship's storage room would vary and allow the ice to melt, which would promote slime.

"It takes approximately six weeks for a shipment to reach Tutuila and this stock is expected to last from one to four weeks after arriving, as there is only one boat docking there every three or four weeks."

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vegetables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certificate Copy Fees
Atlanta	13	40	53	44	30	0	\$ 212	\$ 0	\$ 6
Baltimore	18	21	39	55	7	0	152	2.50	5
Boston	50	207	257	126	128	85	1012	10.00	18
Buffalo	18	59	77	59	20	0	272	20.00	20
Chicago	25	139	164	252	10	2	624	20.00	34
Cincinnati	16	14	30	30	1	0	120	0	5
Cleveland	56	206	262	152	127	15	1000	35.00	79
Columbus	12	38	50	37	15	2	200	0	6
Denver	4	18	22	16	0	0	84	0	1
Detroit	40	155	195	178	29	18	748	20.00	7
Harrisburg	0	1	1	3	0	0	4	0	0
Indianapolis	5	34	39	41	2	0	148	5.00	4
Kansas City	25	28	53	28	12	0	200	7.50	8
Memphis	9	28	37	47	13	0	144	2.50	2
Milwaukee	25	55	80	62	15	0	288	20.00	3
Minneapolis	7	20	27	43	1	0	108	0	1
New Haven	8	53	61	-	8	4	216	17.50	8
New Orleans	24	105	129	63	77	2	452	40.00	3
New York	202	552	754	384	176	11	2316	435.00	253
Norfolk	9	328	337	4	18	2	1336	7.50	2
Omaha	8	8	16	4	7	0	56	5.00	0
Philadelphia	36	43	79	228		1	280	22.50	3
Pittsburgh	92	177	269	376	96	34	948	80.00	46
Portland	10	19	29	-	0	0	84	12.50	2
St. Louis	63	103	166	167	90	0	648	10.00	41
Washington	5	14	19	68	1	0	76	0	14
Wilkes-Barre	4	22	26	16	13	3	100	2.50	7
TOTAL	784	2487	3271	2483	896	179	\$11,828	\$775.00	\$578

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.... 784 | Inspections for Carriers.... 896
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...2487 | Declined for lack of time... 179
 GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections....3271 | TOTAL Fees assessed...\$13,188.50*

*Total Fees Assessed includes \$7.50 for inspection of mixed cars.

3c. BULLETIN ON MARKETING NEW YORK LETTUCE.

"Grading, Packing and Handling Head Lettuce in New York State" is the subject of a bulletin recently published by the New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca. This bulletin, written by F. O. Underwood, is meant to help New York farmers to compete with the lettuce which comes from the far West, particularly during the season in which New York should have peculiar advantages, some of which are lost, together with good prices, because of a lack of high standards for the Empire State growers.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JULY, 1924

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	178188	9210	1260	0	179448	9210	90	0	118	17
NEW YORK	611278	115883	6333	1665	617611	117548	784	37	0	0
NORFOLK	644203	19635	87583	3026	731786	22661	429	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	232611	25272	10321	1350	242932	26622	505	91	0	0
SAN DIEGO	346247	65920	6529	850	352776	66770	481	310	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	408658	-	12900	-	421558	-	600	-	0	-
SAN PEDRO	25348	-	1095	-	26443	-	0	-	0	-
VALLEJO	274405	41973	4689	392	279094	42365	87	0	0	0
TOTALS	2720938	277893	130710	7283	2851648	285176	2976	438	118	17

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	53030	285	53315	0	0
NORFOLK	49086	0	49086	0	0
TOTALS	102116	285	102401	0	0

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected for the U.S. Lines 457,213 lbs. of vegetables, 259,736 lbs. of fruit, total 716,949 lbs., with rejections of 11,652 lbs.; and for the Munson Line, 48,645 lbs. of vegetables, 21,788 lbs. of fruit, total 70,433 lbs., with rejections of 200 lbs.

Other products inspected by the Norfolk office for the Navy, including fresh, cured and smoked meats, fowl, fish, clams, dairy products, bread and ice cream:-

Passed.....27,960 lbs.
Rejected.....60 lbs.
TOTAL.....28,020 lbs.

The San Pedro office also inspected the following, with no rejections:

Bread3,762 lbs.
Butter.....588 "
TOTAL4,350 lbs.

The Vallejo station inspected and passed 53,055 lbs. of bread, and 150 lbs. of rolls for the Navy.

4c. REPORTING REINSPECTIONS TO WASHINGTON.

In wires to Washington, advising of reversals on reinspection, the particular point on which the original certificate is reversed should be mentioned. It will not be necessary to give details of the whole certificate. Following is an example: "Car 23476 potatoes Florida reversed as to grade account ten per cent under size."

5c. 100 INSPECTORS NOW WORKING IN CALIFORNIA.

The California service is now employing 100 inspectors and is planning to increase this number to 120 during the peak of the grape season.

In order that the work may be carried on uniformly throughout the State, a training school has been established at Fresno under the direction of E. J. Powell and H. W. Peterson. In this school all the new men will be carefully and thoroughly trained, and later transferred to the other offices.

It has been estimated locally that the California grape crop for this year will be approximately the same as in 1923. The California Inspection Service issued certificates on more than 26,000 cars, or one-half the entire output, of grapes last season.

To take care of the demand for inspection, aside from the permanent offices located at Sacramento, Los Angeles, Watsonville and San Francisco, offices will be established at the following 24 points until the conclusion of the grape deal: San Diego, Ontario, Bakersfield, Dinuba, Hanford, Delano, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Turlock, Modesto, Stockton, Lodi, Yuba City, Walnut Creek, Fairfield, Woodland, Salinas, Gilroy, San Jose, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Ukiah, and Napa.

6c. VALUE OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION.

The July 26 issue of the Missouri Marketing Bulletin, the semi-monthly publication of the State Marketing Bureau, Jefferson City, features on its first page a speech entitled "Shipping-Point Inspection Service on Missouri Fruits and Vegetables," recently delivered by Daniel C. Rogers, Associate Marketing Commissioner, before the Missouri State Horticultural Society at Joplin. A copy of a Federal-State inspection certificate used in Missouri is reproduced on the front page of the Bulletin. Ten points on the value of inspection certificates are given. A prophesy also is made that nothing within the past 15 years has been offered or nothing will be offered within the next 10 years to the fruit and vegetable industry of Missouri that will have proved so helpful in placing the production of such crops upon an efficient, profitable, business-like, and permanent basis as the inspection service rendered at Missouri shipping points. It is further stated that shipping-point inspection service no doubt will be extended in due time to Missouri eggs, grain, hay, wool and other important products of the farm in addition to fruits and vegetables. -(from "Marketing Activities")

ANNUAL TABLES OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1924,
published in this D.L., are worth studying carefully.

Considerable gains were made during year.

TOTAL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INSPECTIONS, 1923 - 1924

Station	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Atlanta	49	66	53	114	74	55	70	46	64	49	31	23	694
Baltimore	26	24	24	30	49	42	64	32	35	33	32	30	421
Boston	155	93	54	102	80	38	63	119	106	143	308	388	1649
Buffalo	47	34	34	61	35	36	76	87	52	102	130	145	839
Chicago	197	120	193	287	318	261	329	282	281	244	169	286	2967
Cincinnati	38	28	64	49	52	34	47	51	52	37	26	41	519
Cleveland	150	103	57	74	44	33	59	72	73	102	141	270	1178
Columbus	75	51	33	58	33	30	51	42	26	41	103	122	665
Denver	13	7	10	7	9	12	20	10	23	19	27	14	171
Detroit	145	55	70	53	39	58	56	60	59	104	214	196	1109
Fort Worth	-	-	-	34	26	16	14	18	15	19	-	-	142
Harrisburg	3	-	-	3	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	5	25
Houston	-	-	-	37	35	16	12	17	19	11	-	-	147
Indianapolis	26	22	30	38	33	22	26	40	21	27	27	21	333
Kansas City	55	34	45	74	92	98	72	78	164	111	67	90	980
Los Angeles	1	-	-	-	-	1	5	7	3	4	2	2	25
Memphis	30	29	37	45	30	32	31	26	16	43	15	29	363
Milwaukee	66	25	17	34	31	11	25	28	29	42	76	63	447
Minneapolis	49	22	39	86	53	35	57	83	55	74	42	34	629
New Haven	39	16	47	62	44	39	34	49	45	57	30	52	514
New Orleans	89	108	123	145	160	98	151	107	84	100	61	66	1292
New York	298	202	223	796	775	447	830	898	811	740	675	554	7249
Norfolk	14	18	43	59	31	23	48	27	28	26	45	92	454
Omaha	33	20	24	23	23	25	50	61	57	36	14	13	379
Philadelphia	194	32	36	73	62	51	68	75	64	112	151	139	1057
Pittsburgh	252	143	114	308	169	79	111	103	110	141	206	245	1981
Portland	2	5	11	30	32	31	48	70	64	58	20	8	379
St. Louis	98	96	125	149	146	102	250	223	264	198	144	157	1952
Salt Lake City	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	1	-	3	3	1	13
San Antonio	-	-	-	-	21	18	14	-	2	-	-	-	55
San Francisco	2	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	10
Washington	35	18	31	47	56	33	58	67	53	46	22	20	486
Wilkes-Barre	13	17	11	18	10	10	5	14	9	14	21	17	159
TOTAL	2194	1388	1548	2899	2570	1788	2750	2795	2687	2737	2804	3123	29283

7c. NEW BULLETIN DISTRIBUTED.

Copies of the new Department Bulletin No. 1253, "Diseases of Apples on the Market," have been mailed to Inspectors. The bulletin is a joint contribution of this Bureau and of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Dr. D. H. Rose used as a basis for this study of apple diseases the inspection certificates on this fruit for the period November, 1917, to July, 1921.

8c. CANTALOUPE INSPECTIONS IN NEVADA.

State-Federal inspections on cantaloupes are now being made at shipping points in the Moapa Valley of Nevada. The service is very popular among producers and shippers, according to recent advice from S. C. Dinsmore, State Food and Drug Commissioner, at Reno.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS, 1923-1924

NAVY						Figures = pounds			
Month	Boston	New York	Norfolk	Phila- delphia	San Diego	San Fran.	San Pedro	Vallejo	TOTAL
July	226372	310560	-	225356	264821	975754	34456	-	2037119
Aug.	217484	340804	219045	260440	385507	345432	39127	-	1807839
Sept.	151196	466337	64768	194138	527782	-	629699	-	2033920
Oct.	175381	324080	29925	207838	502108	451485	471243	-	2162060
Nov.	66695	291157	12750	297332	615894	255910	1140926	-	2680664
Dec.	322945	876264	931381	646608	1141507	167465	1470762	217313	5774245
Jan.	83008	350829	1867304	181055	281412	128846	128059	159034	3179547
Feb.	127885	1020734	997702	149715	167547	284486	9431	181429	2938929
March	56824	738010	1128662	185117	266874	263760	39096	182957	2861300
April	45742	754319	-	377432	441552	740652	296807	144660	2801164
May	139217	946867	769391	351367	535368	125505	686945	167824	3722484
June	265936	497304	728416	241246	606614	470487	851662	198066	3859731
TOTAL	1878685	6917265	6749344	3317644	5736786	4209782	5798213	1251283	35859002

MARINE CORPS

July	6761	218117	-	20549	46714	-	-	-	292141
Aug.	6214	194468	-	23396	55231	-	-	-	279309
Sept.	6311	177304	-	17146	72896	-	-	-	273657
Oct.	6145	163664	-	16426	81582	-	-	-	267817
Nov.	6723	223798	-	16351	81195	-	-	-	328067
Dec.	7213	187492	-	17854	72468	-	-	42312	327339
Jan.	9702	184821	-	14385	91787	-	-	20226	320921
Feb.	8775	192641	-	19587	72524	-	-	37629	331156
March	9765	200513	-	16519	77212	-	-	40673	344682
April	7151	315597	-	21203	75301	-	-	23402	442654
May	8675	198900	22433	20278	62752	-	-	39174	352212
June	8932	179261	22840	20123	64116	-	-	37396	332668
TOTAL	92367	2436576	45273	223817	853778	-	-	240812	3892623
GRAND TOTAL	1971052	9353841	6794617	3541461	6590564	4209782	5798213	1492095	39751625

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected the following:

For the Munson Lines - 1175565 lbs. of fruits and vegetables, with 41,611 lbs. reject
 For the U. S. Lines - 4895003 lbs. of fruits and vegetables, with 203,870 lbs. reject

The following were inspected for the Laid-Up Fleet of the U.S. Shipping Board:

	F. & V. Passed	Rejected	Total	Cuts	Items billed shortweight
New York	314334	11595	325929	300	0
Norfolk	542663	11850	554513	4700	8
TOTAL	856997	23445	880442	5000	8

In addition to the above, the San Pedro office inspected and passed 281,680 lbs. of bread, butter and cheese, with rejections of 9,662 lbs.; the Vallejo office inspected and passed 211,557 lbs. of bread, with rejections of 68 lbs.; and the Norfolk office inspected 195,963 lbs. with 224 lbs. rejected, for the Navy, and 3,282 lbs. for the Marines, of foodstuffs including fresh and cured meats, fish, oysters, clams, ice cream and bread.

9c. FINE PROGRESS IN KANSAS POTATO INSPECTIONS.

About 1,025 cars of Kaw Valley potatoes had been inspected up to the 2nd of August, according to a letter of that date from J. H. Hoover, who is supervising this deal. Digging was rather slow for about 10 days, on account of wet weather and poor markets, but a good movement was expected this week. The work in that territory will soon be completed, though at the time of his writing Mr. Hoover stated that little more than half the crop had been moved.

10c. INSPECTORS BUSY IN NORTHWEST.

In a recent letter, F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector, advised that he had just completed a three weeks' trip to important shipping sections in Washington and Oregon. He gave a number of grading demonstrations and assisted the local inspectors wherever possible. He adds: "Right now is the busiest time of the year, as cantaloupes, pears, berries, and 500 to 1,000 cars of fresh prunes are moving out from various scattered points."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman spent Wednesday in Albany, N. Y., to confer with State authorities regarding shipping-point inspection work, particularly on apples. He was accompanied by Mr. Peet, Manager of the Western New York Fruit Growers' Cooperative Packing Association, and it is probable that a limited amount of apple inspection work will be done this season in western New York.

R. C. Butner represented this Division at the 29th annual convention of the International Apple Shippers' Association in St. Louis this week. Mr. Butner left Chicago about August 8 and first went to the Indiana onion district, where inspections will be made again this season. In addition to attending the St. Louis convention, and visiting our office in that city, Mr. Butner also visited a number of potato shipping points in that vicinity. He will be back in Chicago by the end of this week.

Robert Bier left Georgia this morning, after having closed the peach inspection deal in that State. He will stop at Clemson College, S. C., to confer with W. W. Long, Director of Extension Work, and then will come to Washington for a period of leave.

Announcement is made with regret of the intention of F. M. Lyle, in charge of the New Haven inspection office, to leave the service about September 1, in order to accept a position as teacher of market gardening at the A. & M. College, Texas. Mr. Lyle has done effective work in the Inspection project since his appointment two years ago.

Philip T. Baden, of Montana, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and reported in Chicago this week for training in inspection work. Mr. Baden received his B.S. degree from the Michigan Agricultural College in 1912. After graduation, he was employed at Missoula, Mont., as an orchard inspector. From 1918 to 1920, Mr. Baden was District Inspector for the 5th district in Montana, and during the next two years was manager of the Curlew Orchards in that State. Since 1922, he has been District Horticultural Inspector, with headquarters at Hamilton, Mont.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Since the arrival of Mr. Baden, the inspectors' training class in Chicago. now has the following enrollment:

P. T. Baden	W. H. Hall	A. S. Mason	J. C. Townsend, Jr.
T. R. Hall	J. W. Howard	L.G.C. Peirce	G. W. Winfrey

J. A. Marks has completed the peach inspection work in Arkansas, and will now go on a short vacation at Springdale. It is understood that about 600 cars of peaches were inspected at shipping points in that State. After his period of leave, Mr. Marks will proceed to the Pittsburgh office.

Completing the North Carolina peach inspection deal this week, A. E. Morcker will go at once to Easton, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and handle a small number of peach inspections in that territory. He will take with him one of the local inspectors who assisted in North Carolina.

J. E. Dickerson's address, while supervising Indiana onion inspections, is General Delivery, Warsaw, Ind.

Cantaloupe market news service and inspection work will be started at Rocky Ford, Colo., next week. R. L. Sutton has gone from Pleasant Valley, Iowa, to handle the market reports, and M.D. Sanborn goes from Denver to look after the inspections. Joint Federal-State certificates will be issued on these cantaloupe shipments.

Upon the closing of the Macon, Ga., field station on watermelons today, F.H. Scruggs will go to Isabella, Tenn., for 10 days' leave, after which he will return to the Washington office.

J. D. Evers, who has been issuing market reports at Raleigh, N.C., expects to close that service today. He will come to Washington, and work on the summaries of the numerous North Carolina fruits and vegetables on which reports were issued this season.

On the return of Mr. Boree from a brief vacation last Monday, J. W. Park, who had substituted for Mr. Boree, immediately proceeded to Vincennes, Princeton, and Poseyville, Indiana, where he made further investigations in the grading and shipping of cantaloupes. Returning to Washington this Saturday, Mr. Park will then make a similar trip to the cantaloupe shipping sections of Maryland and Delaware.

About the middle of next week, W. H. Mosier, who has been substituting for L. E. Wulfekuhl, at Cincinnati, will go on leave at his home, 671 E. Mound Street, Columbus, Ohio. About the same time, A. E. Prugh is expected to reach Washington, after his vacation at Radnor, Ohio, and G. E. Prince will proceed by the end of next week from Salt Lake City to the Pacific Northwest, with Spokane as his ultimate destination.

Miss Lucy Watt, of the Washington staff, is on leave at her home in Greensburg, Pa. Mrs. Gladys Cridlin, of the Washington clerical force, resigned, effective August 9.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 34.

August 22, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. POTATO SITUATION IN STOCKTON DISTRICT.

The following report was submitted on August 15 by C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office:

"Potato growers in the Stockton district of California have organized an Association to assist in the distribution and sale of their stock. This Association is said to comprise 75% of the growers in the Delta and upland regions of the Sacramento River district. With an increase of 7,000 acres in this district over last year, and a larger yield, every effort is being put forth to secure fair returns for their output.

"Although California is experiencing one of the driest years in its history and other crops are suffering on account of this drought, the yield of potatoes is considerably heavier and the quality is superior to that of other years. This is due primarily to the fact that the nights have been warm and growing conditions ideal. This land is sub-irrigated with trenches running through the fields and a gentle seepage works upward to the surface. The Delta tracts are from four to eight feet below the surface of the Sacramento River and, in the process of irrigation, it is necessary only to open a flume allowing ample water to flow to the irrigating canals. During the rainy seasons, large pumping stations are operated to keep the water from flooding the lands.

"On land that has recently been burned off, the yields are running as high as 300 sacks per acre. The average yield on old land runs only from 100 to 150 sacks per acre.

"Buyers in the field operate their own motor boats, visiting the various fields where digging is in process and buying the supplies f.o.b. the river bank on a sack basis, estimating the weight of the sacks from 110 to 116 pounds each. Transportation costs to the loading stations are paid by the buyer. Growers were receiving \$1.50-1.60 per sack f.o.b. the river bank for their No. 1 stock during the middle of August."

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 16:

Page 101 - Valencia onion crop. (filler)

102 - Special paragraph on apples in weekly review.

- Additional Field Stations of News Service.

103 - Apricots and Prunes Selling Rapidly. (from "Agricultural Cooperation")

104 - Early Potato Situation in Idaho, - by G.D. Clark.

- New York Leading Potato State. (based on summary by C.L. Brown)

- Nebraska Early Potatoes Delayed, - by H. E. Rutland.

- Potato Farmers Paid for Home Storage. (from "Agricultural Cooperation")

112 - British Apple Outlook.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. NOTICE OF EMBARGOES IN FIELD STATION BULLETINS.

All embargo information, published in mimeographed market reports at field stations, should be preceded by the explanatory caption:-

EMBARGOES:

(Information furnished by American Railway Association)

NOTE- Except when otherwise indicated, embargoes are effective 48 hours after date of placement. Cancellations are effective on the date specified.

Our field men, of course, will publish in their daily bulletins only so much of the embargo information as affects the particular product or products on which reports are issued.

2b. MORE ABOUT HONEY BALL MELONS.

V. D. Callanan, of the New York office, advised that the first car of Texas Honey Ball melons was received in that city on Monday, August 11. "The car was consigned to Richman & Samuels and was sold on the street at a range of \$1 - 1.50 per crate. Melons were packed in flat crates, holding 12 to 20 melons, but the pack was somewhat irregular and the quality of the fruit was very ordinary. Although considerable interest has been shown in this melon, most dealers were not enthusiastic after an inspection of this first car."

3b. UNLOAD REPORTS AVAILABLE IN NEW FORMS.

A glance at the unload statistics secured by the various market stations will show that it is possible to arrange several different kinds of tabulations from these figures. For at least the year 1923, the Washington office now has available in mimeographed form these unload figures on the four bases indicated below:

- (1) Annual unloads in each city, showing the totals by products and by States of origin. Summarized by months and products at bottom.
- (2) Annual unloads of each product, showing receipts in each city by States of origin.
- (3) Annual unloads in each city, showing for each product the monthly receipts from each State.
- (4) Monthly summary of unloads in each city, showing currently (and for 1924) the month's receipts of each product from each State.

4b. ANOTHER FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

The MAINE POTATO DEAL, Season of 1923-24, by H. S. Stiles, was distributed during the week. This comprehensive summary comprises 30 pages.

5b. POTATO YIELDS AT KEARNEY, NEBRASKA.

H. E. Rutland, in charge of the Kearney, Nebr., field station advised on August 15 that the Early Ohios harvested in that section to date yielded from 115 to 240 bushels per acre. Growers and Association men were estimating that the average for the district would be 125 to 140 bushels per acre.

6b. WESTERN SLOPE POTATOES AND PEARS.

Publication of the following information from R. H. Lamb was unavoidably delayed. Mr. Lamb is in charge of the Grand Junction, Colo., field station, and included these statements in a letter dated August 6:-

"Fruita has moved around 50% of its crop of Cobblers. Local factors estimate the crop in that district at 500 cars. The Early Ohios that have been coming into the Denver market have apparently been shipped from the Olathe section, as none are grown in the Fruita district. The Fruita stock has generally been of U. S. No. 1 quality, although the first seemed rather immature and badly feathered, judging from the stock that I saw in Denver. Growers at the present time are receiving \$1.10 per cwt., but are holding back their potatoes, hoping for higher prices. (Price recently declined to 90¢. - Editor)

"The carlot pear season is opening, but there will be a very light movement until the middle or end of next week (Aug. 15). The Bartletts around Grand Junction are showing considerable rust. Local factors are instructing their growers that spots of rust larger than a twenty-five cent piece will not be permitted in the Fancy grade."

7b. AUGUST SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The August Supplement to "Crops and Markets" came from the press on Thursday. In addition to the August crop reports and usual tables of farm prices, etc., special attention is called to the following material:

- Page 249 - Time of Issuance and Scope of September Crop Reports.
251 - Acreage of cabbage for kraut in northern Ohio. (filler)
256 - Onions in Hardin County, Ohio. (filler)
260 - Chart showing Comparative Price Levels for Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Apples, etc.
- Cabbage acreage in Orleans and Ontario counties, New York. (filler)
- Carrot acreage in western New York. (filler)
261 - Chart showing Comparative Price Levels for Cabbage, Beans, Peanuts, etc.
- Onion acreage in New York State. (filler)
263 - Commercial cabbage acreage in Wisconsin. (filler)
265 - Farm Prices and Retail Prices Compared on Potatoes, Onions, Beans, etc.
- Onion acreage in Indiana. (filler)
273 - Celery plants abundant in New York State. (filler)
274 - Watermelon plantings in southeast Missouri. (filler)
276 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables by States, June, 1924.
277 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits by States, June, 1924.
- Peanut Stocks Very Light. (monthly review)
278 - Honey Situation Unusually Variable. (monthly review)
Both of these last articles were somewhat abbreviated in print.
- New Agricultural Publications. (classified list)
285 - New Index Numbers of Farm Prices.
286 - Income from Agricultural Production in the United States, 1919-24.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 6
FRESNO, CALIF. Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
KEARNEY, NEBR. Post Office Bldg.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Aug. 30
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Aug. 18 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Oct. 4 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 20	Sept. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Grapes Apples Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 28 Aug. 28 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18
SPOKANE, WASH.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 2	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y.	837	A. E. Prugh	Peaches Pears Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 2 Sept. 2 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 29 Sept. 29 Oct. 13	Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Jan. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 10	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.**	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

** State Dept. cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

W. H. Mosier - in Cincinnati office.	J. D. Evers - in Philadelphia office.
R. M. Peterson - in Atlanta office.	R. H. Shoemaker - on leave.
G. A. DeHaven - in Chicago office.	F. H. Scruggs - on leave.
G. E. Prince - in Spokane office.	A. E. Prugh - in Rochester office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. CORRECTION OF INSPECTION REPORT.

In the July report of city inspections, published on page 376 of last week's D.L., the 1922 figures instead of 1923 figures were printed in the column headed: "Total Same Month 1923." Comparison with the correct figures (for July, 1923) shows that the work during July, 1924, increased to even a greater extent than indicated by the table. Correct comparative totals for July are published below:-

	1924	1923		1924	1923		1924	1923
Atlanta	53	49	Detroit	195	145	New York	754	298
Baltimore	39	26	Harrisburg	1	3	Norfolk	337	14
Boston	257	155	Indianapolis	39	26	Omaha	16	33
Buffalo	77	47	Kansas City	53	55	Philadelphia	79	194
Chicago	164	197	Memphis	37	30	Pittsburgh	269	252
Cincinnati	30	38	Milwaukee	80	66	Portland	29	2
Cleveland	262	150	Minneapolis	27	49	St. Louis	166	98
Columbus	50	75	New Haven	61	39	Washington	19	35
Denver	22	13	New Orleans	129	89	Wilkes-Barre	26	13
						Total	3271	2194*

* Including 1 for Los Angeles and 2 for San Francisco office.

The next three items are taken from SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTORS' LETTER No. 5, for Washington and Oregon, issued by F. E. Bailey on August 11:

2c. THE ROGUE RIVER PEAR DEAL.

The first car of Bartlett pears was shipped from Medford, Oregon, on July 29th. The pear crop for this year is estimated at 1,000 to 1,200 cars. Quality of the fruit is generally fair, although the general run of sizes may be slightly smaller than last year. In some sections in the lower part of the Rogue River Valley, where the frost effect was greater, the pears are slightly rougher than normal.

The principal commercial varieties that are produced in the Rogue River Valley are Bartlett, Howell, Bosc, D'Anjou, Comice, Winter Nelis. The Patrick Berry, Seckel, Clairgeau and Forelle also are grown in small quantities.

Jackson County, which embraces the major portion of the pear acreage in the Rogue River Valley, is reported by the County Agent to have 5,870 acres of bearing pears and 1,286 acres nonbearing.

The majority of the pears shipped from this valley are packed within a few hours of the time they are delivered to the packing house, and immediately loaded into iced cars. As soon as the cars are loaded, two per cent of salt is added to the ice in the bunkers. Probably less than five per cent of the pears in this valley are pre-cooled either before or after packing. Ninety per cent or better of all the pear shipments will be Federal inspected.

The following factors are having all shipments inspected:

Stewart Fruit Company, Denney and Company, Sgobel & Day, Earle Fruit Company of the N. W., Pinnacle Packing Company, Guy W. Conner, Palmer Investment Company, Talent Canning Company, C. M. Speck, Stancliff Bros., Ala Vista Packing Company.

3c. WESTERN OREGON FRESH PRUNE SHIPMENTS.

Within the past few days, requests have been received for the inspection of 500 to 700 cars of fresh prunes at various points in the Willamette and Umpqua valleys, in Western Oregon. A shortage of fresh prunes from the fresh prune shipping sections east of the Cascades, together with a dry season, which is favorable to shipping fresh prunes from the points west of the Cascades, are probable factors in inducing these sections, which have previously produced only dried prunes, to ship a portion of their crop fresh. Probably another reason is that the unusually dry season west of the Cascades is resulting in the prune crop's maturing before it has developed sufficient size to produce good grades of dried prunes. Practically all of the crop will be jumble-packed in 3-1/4 inch boxes. This is the method which is locally known as "suitcasing."

BUT NOTICE the following wire, received from R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, on August 20: "Rain will curtail and possibly end prune shipments western Oregon."

4c. FROM A RAILROAD BULLETIN.

Although written from a railroad viewpoint, the following extract from a bulletin issued by the Freight Claim Division of the American Railway Association will be of interest to the members of joint Federal-State inspection service:

For the month of April there were inspected at eleven of the larger points in the West, by the Western Weighing and Inspection Bureau, 5,910 cars of fruits and vegetables, with following results:

Number of cars found damaged-----1,027--- 17.4%

Damages due to decay, over-ripeness, etc.---	406---	39.5%
Damages due to field or orchard diseases---	188---	18.3%
Damages due to improper bracing-----	119---	11.6%
Damages due to rough handling-----	93---	9.1%
Damages due to field frost-----	73---	7.1%
Damages due to pilferages (½ box or more)---	45---	4.4%
Damages due to freezing in transit-----	44---	4.4%
Damages due to poor containers-----	34---	3.3%

5c. CANADA TO HAVE A SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION SERVICE.

Canada is establishing a shipping-point inspection service this year for the first time. Requests for such a service have been received by the Minister of Agriculture from fruit and vegetable shippers throughout Canada. As an experiment, shipping-point inspections will be made in the Okanagan section of British Columbia, on a basis of approximate cost. Plans have been formulated by which practically all shipments of fruit and vegetables from the territory mentioned may move this season under Government inspection at point of shipment. Applications already on file from shippers indicate the possibility of fully 80% of the entire crop movement under inspection, accompanied by a Government certificate in respect to grade, condition, etc. Inspections will be made wherever products are offered for shipment, but confined to the area stated, and will include fields, orchards, packing house, common or cold storage warehouses pre-cooling plants, loading platforms, railway and express cars. Inspections will be made under the provisions of the Fruit Act and the Root Vegetable Act, violations of which will be dealt with the same manner as heretofore.-- (from "Marketing Activities").

6c. PEACH INSPECTIONS IN WESTERN MARYLAND.

P. D. Rupert, who is stationed at Hancock, Md., recently advised that 250 cars of peaches are expected from that territory this season, compared with only 150 cars the last two seasons. About 15% will be early varieties. Bulk of the Elberta shipments will not move until about September 10.

7c. SPECIAL MATERIAL ON CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

With this Division Letter each Inspector is being sent copies of the following cooperative publications on grapes, issued by the California inspection service:

Grape Inspection Circular, dated July 1, 1924.

Inspection Memorandum regarding Grape Grades, dated July 18, 1924.

Special Publication No. 46, "United States Grades for Grapes."

8c. BULLETINS ON POTATO AND CABBAGE DISEASES.

Under separate cover, copies of the following bulletins are being sent to all Inspectors:

Farmers' Bulletin 1059, "Sweet-Potato Diseases."

Farmers' Bulletin 1351, "Cabbage Diseases."

Department Circular 220, "Late-Blight Tuber Rot of the Potato."

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Regret is felt by the entire staff of the Fruit and Vegetable Division in the death of Rial Catlin Rose, Inspector at Cincinnati, which occurred last Tuesday afternoon. As has been announced in the D. L., Mr. Rose was ill for several months, apparently suffering from some spinal trouble. He was about 42 years of age and is survived by his wife and one child. Burial services will take place at Mankato, Kans., this Saturday. Mr. Rose was a graduate of the University of Kansas and the University of Chicago. He taught science and botany in different educational institutions, and served as a Plant Pathologist on the staff of the Missouri Fruit Experiment Station. Mr. Rose is the author of a number of scientific papers. He was appointed to this Bureau in January, 1920, from a register for Assistant Plant Pathologist, and served continuously in the Inspection project, at Chicago the first two years and at Cincinnati since February, 1922. In all of his assignments, Mr. Rose did very effective work, one of his latest efforts being the development of a measuring stick for estimating the weight of watermelons.

Dr. D. H. Rose, a brother of Rial C. Rose, will attend the funeral services at Mankato, Kans., and probably remain there a few days before proceeding to Chicago, where he will give lectures on fruit diseases before the Inspectors' training class. Dr. Rose is a B.P.I. Plant Pathologist.

G. W. Payne, Boston Inspector, who is now on annual leave, visited the Washington office this week.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Neither Mr. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau, nor W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector, were able to appear, as scheduled, on the program of the Tri-State Marketing School, in session at Farmingdale, Long Island, this week, and Mr. Sherman went in their stead. At one of the sessions on Wednesday, Mr. Sherman discussed the ways in which farmers can make use of the marketing activities of this Bureau. The School was conducted primarily for teachers of vocational agriculture in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Robert W. Davis, of Wisconsin, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist and will report for duty in the Washington office by September 2. Mr. Davis is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, where he specialized in economics and statistics. During summer vacations, he worked for the Door County Fruit Growers' Association, at Sturgeon Bay, Wis., and since June, 1921, has been in the employ of the Bureau of Public Roads, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington. Mr. Davis will be an assistant investigator in package standardization, working under the immediate direction of Mr. Spilman, in Mr. Samson's project.

Mr. Stillwell spent this entire week in Denver and vicinity. By Sunday he will resume his trip eastward, and is expected to reach Washington by the end of this month.

H. A. Spilman left Washington Wednesday night for a short trip to the lettuce section of Wayne County, New York. He was scheduled to address a meeting of growers and shippers at Williamson in the interest of a standard two-dozen crate for lettuce.

Wm. E. Lewis leaves today on a trip that will take him through the principal tomato-canning districts of the East. He goes first to Baltimore and will visit a number of canning points in that vicinity. His itinerary after Sunday permits stops at Wilmington, Del.; Trenton, N.J.; New York City; Columbus, Ohio, Indianapolis, Ind., and Pittsburgh, as well as other points in those States. Mr. Lewis is making this trip in the interest of the Federal grades for cannery tomatoes.

When T. C. Curry returns from his leave at the end of this week, R. M. Peterson, who has been substituting in the Atlanta office, expects to proceed to Minneapolis, his permanent headquarters.

F. S. Kinsey, who has been in the Washington office for six weeks, working on the shipping-point inspection handbook, left last Wednesday for Los Angeles, where he will spend a short vacation. In early September, Mr. Kinsey will proceed to Portland, Oregon, and other points in the Pacific Northwest, to resume his work as Supervising Inspector.

A. E. Prugh reached Washington early this week, and probably will proceed to Rochester, N.Y. on Sunday where he will issue market reports during the fall and winter months on about seven products. En route, Mr. Prugh will stop at New York City, to confer with C. L. Brown, who operated the Rochester office the last two seasons.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A. L. Thomas, radio operator, who has been in the Washington telegraph section during the summer, started by automobile for Rochester last week. After a period of leave, Mr. Thomas will resume his duties in the reception of radio telegraph reports for the Rochester office from Washington.

J. D. Evers came to Washington from Raleigh, N. C., last Monday. He left in a few days for Philadelphia, where he is now substituting for J. G. Scott, while the latter is on vacation at Princess Anne, Md. On Mr. Scott's return, E. R. Biddle will go on leave. Mr. Evers, therefore, will be assisting in the Philadelphia office of the News Service until about September 20. He will then proceed to Boston, and go on a year's furlough for the purpose of completing his course in the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Robert Bier duly arrived in Washington, and this week has been getting into final shape his report on the various shipping-point inspection deals which he supervised in the South during the past nine months.

While A. E. Meroker is at Easton, Md., handling the small inspection deal in that territory, he can be reached at the Queen Anne Hotel, Easton. He advises that in North Carolina about 1,200 of the 1,450 cars of peaches were inspected.

P. D. Rupert's mail address at Hancock, Md., is P. O. Box 32.

R. C. Lindstrom expects to complete the inspection work in Oklahoma this week. To date, about 140 cars of various products have been inspected.

O. N. Harsha will leave Orrick, Mo., for Chicago today, and from there proceed to Michigan, where he will supervise the grape inspection work under a new agreement for cooperative inspections in that State. From now until the close of the Orrick deal about September 1, Mr. Gobble, of the Missouri Marketing Bureau, will handle the potato inspections at that point. Mr. Gobble assisted Mr. Harsha at Orrick during the last two weeks.

C. W. Hauck is now at Fresno, Calif., looking over the grape and raisin industry and studying the application of the U. S. grades for grapes, which are being used as a basis for most shipments this season. Mr. Hauck's address at Fresno is 2117 Inyo Street.

NOTE: The extension of the Southern leased wire from Atlanta, Ga., to Jacksonville, Fla., was discontinued on June 30, and will not be resumed until the opening of the coming shipping season in Florida.

A HOLIDAY will be observed in all offices on Monday, September 1, which is Labor Day.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 35

August 29, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. POTATO AND PRUNE SITUATION IN IDAHO.

In a letter of August 23, L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho, gives the following information of general interest:

"It seems impossible for the early potato movement to get under way, for, after a good start last week, it has slowed down at the present time to practically nothing. The price is so low that the growers will not dig, and prospects for an increase in the next week are not very bright.

"The potatoes and prunes will now come on together, which will complicate matters still further. The prune crop prospects have steadily decreased until it appears that there will not be more than 800 cars from the whole district. They will start moving the first of next week, but there will not be any heavy shipments before September. The Department here has been doing everything possible to hold back the shipment of immature stock, and the quality should be very good.

"There will be very little movement of potatoes from the territory around Twin Falls and east thereof before the first part of September, as they can hold their stock for better prices."

2a. CONSCIENTIOUS USE OF TIME.

It is believed that most of our employees are conscientious as to their working hours and faithful in the use of time. To indicate the importance of this matter and the strictness with which other Departments view the question, the following paragraphs are quoted from official orders of the Post Office Department, published in a recent supplement to the Postal Guide:

"Time Cheating: Falsifying one's record as to the time of going on duty or the time of going off duty, by whatever means such falsification is effected, is really time embezzlement. It is defrauding the Government and can not be condoned under any circumstances. Reports of this kind of fraud are occasionally brought to the attention of the Department, and this notice is intended as a direction to postmasters to carefully guard the time records, and as a warning to clerks and carriers that falsifying these records is looked upon as a grave offense."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 23:

- Page 117 - Watermelons Profitable in Central Georgia, - by F. H. Scruggs.
- Vegetable imports from Cuba doubled in value. (filler)
- 118 - Special paragraphs on late onions in weekly review.
- Connecticut Valley onion section. (filler - by H. S. Stiles).
- 119 - Georgia Elbertas About Shipped, - by V. D. Callanan.
- 120 - Colorado Produce Moving, - by John D. Snow.
- California Grape Prices Decline, - by C. E. Schultz.
- Connecticut Valley Onions, - by H. S. Stiles.
- 124 - Kaw Valley Potato Deal Closing, - by R. S. Lombard.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. FRESNO GRAPE SALES ON CASH TRACK BASIS AT SAME LEVEL AS USUAL TERMS.

In explanation of the fact that, in his f.o.b. report, carload usual terms sales have been on practically the same level as carloads f.o.b. cash track, C. E. Schultz, at Fresno, wired the following on August 27:

"Many shippers will not sell on a cash track basis any lower than on usual terms basis, when the latter shipments are going to reliable receivers although still subject to allowances. Cash buyers complain that they cannot obtain stock at prices in line with sales on the f.o.b. auction, and, therefore, when paying prices for goods cash track at the same level as for usual terms sales, they pick only the best stock available. This practice also accounts for the phrase 'very few sales', which is being used daily in the wires."

2b. WEIGHT OF LUGS DEDUCTED WHEN GRAPES SOLD ON "MOJAB" BASIS.

In reply to an inquiry from Washington, C. E. Schultz has wired the following statement regarding the method of computing the net weights when grapes are sold on a per ton basis: "'Bulk per ton including lugs' is used to indicate per ton sales on a net weight basis. In computing the weight of the grapes, $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds usually is deducted for unlidded lugs and 4 pounds for lidded lugs, leaving a net weight of 2,000 pounds of grapes to the ton."

3b. SPLENDID COOPERATION FROM FIELD AND MARKET STATIONS.

Field men are accustomed to submitting periodical articles for use in "Crops and Markets." It is realized that their time is pretty fully occupied, and their cooperation in this respect is greatly appreciated.

Recently, the market station representatives also have become quite active in this line, particularly the men who are serving producing sections in their territory. This is most commendable, and it is hoped that the market stations will continue their cooperation in sending material for "Crops and Markets" as frequently as new developments arise. Some recent examples of special articles from city market reporters are: Mr. Biddle's story on Virginia potatoes, in paper for August 2; Mr. Ringer's article on the drought in the Northwest in paper for August 2 and another item on this subject to appear on August 30; Mr. Stiles' story on Connecticut Valley onions, Mr. Lombard's on Kaw Valley potatoes, and Mr. Snow's article on Colorado produce in paper for August 23, as well as the summary on Georgia peaches which Mr. Callanan, of the New York office, prepared. Probably in the paper to be dated this Saturday, Mr. Ferguson will have an article on Minnesota potatoes and Mr. Hansen a story on Stockton district potatoes. A second article by Mr. Snow, of the Denver office, also may appear this week.

In addition to these stories treating of conditions in producing sections, there is opportunity to tell of special developments within the city markets. All of these articles, whether from field stations or market stations, appear to be widely read, and very frequently they are the best material to send in answer to inquiries by letter. Delays in publication may occur occasionally, but all material will be printed as rapidly as space is available. So, do not wait to be asked for an article, but send in stories whenever you find a subject of particular interest upon which to write. All contributions should be plainly marked: "FOR MR. FISKE'S SECTION." Send original and 1 carbon copy.

4b. ADDITIONS TO "MI-MO" (GRAPES) PAGE OF CODE (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 4, 1924)

On "MI-MO" page of the code, add:

EG	U.S. Fancy
EJ	U.S. No. 1
EK	U.S. No. 2

5b. DRAGGY SEASON FOR EARLY IDAHO POTATOES.

The following interesting letter was received from G. D. Clark, at Caldwell, Idaho, under date of August 21:

"The deal here appears to have blown as high as the oft-mentioned kite. Last week there was a semblance of life, after three weeks of inactivity due to an unwillingness on the part of the growers to take the price offered. About the time farmers were becoming educated to low prices and anxious to move their crop, the price took another downward swing and the outside demand became almost nil, with a resultant refusal of the buyers to make any offers and a renewed determination on the part of the growers not to sell.

"Yesterday five cars were ordered for loading in the district and two of these were bought for 60¢ cash to the grower. There will be practically no loading today and probably very little the remainder of the week. It is hoped that by the end of the month movement will be under way again, although no heavy loadings are expected at any time, probably not over 50 cars daily. There should be between 1,600 and 1,800 cars moved from the early section by October 1, under normal conditions, compared with about 2,400 cars last year, but 1,200 likely will be the upper limit to that date.

"With Kaw Valley potatoes supplying Texas, Oklahoma and adjacent territory, Chicago liberally supplied with midwestern stock and not high enough to take Idahos, and California receiving plenty of homegrowns, this section is practically without an outlet. The only ray of hope is that Kansas and Missouri will soon be out of the way; however, this must be very soon to help the early deal.

"There were scattered showers over the district on the 18th and 19th, which afforded temporary relief from the drouth, although probably too late to help the potatoes materially. Part of this section received its last run of irrigation water on the 17th, after being short all summer. Most of the potatoes are ready to be dug and many should have been marketed before now.

"The yield is good wherever the water shortage has not been too severe; many farmers are getting 200 sacks per acre. The quality is generally very good, although in some fields Heat Necrosis is showing up, due to the potatoes being held in the hot ground too long after the water played out.

"Reports from the Idaho Falls and the Burley-Buhl sections are that there has been plenty of water to grow the late crop and a good yield is expected. A few cars have moved from the late shipping district, particularly from Aberdeen, and the late movement probably will be getting under headway by September 15."

6b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS.

The following summaries of 1923 field deals have just been distributed:

COLORADO APPLES, by W. J. Bertush	COLORADO CANTALOUPEs, by R. H. Lamb
COLORADO PEARS, by W. J. Bertush	WESTERN NEW YORK QUINCES, - C. L. Brown
COLORADO POTATOES, by W. J. Bertush	WESTERN N.Y. PLUMS & PRUNES, C. L. Brown

7b. THE FOUR DISTRICTS OF CALIFORNIA.

A description of the producing districts of California, as used in the Market News Service, follows:-

1. The Northern California District extends northward from a line following the north shore of the Golden Gate, San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, Suisun Bay, and then following the north shore of the San Joaquin River to Stockton, including Stockton; thence along the line of the Southern Pacific Railway to Milton, but not including that line; thence eastwardly through the center of Calaveras County; thence along the western and northern boundary lines of Alpine County to the Nevada State line.

see addition in D. L. for Nov. 1.
2. The Central District of California includes the territory extending southward from the line described in Par. 1 to a southern boundary beginning at Santa Barbara along an imaginary line to Mojave and including that town; thence along an imaginary line from Mojave to the western end of the Slate Range, along that range of mountains to the southern boundary of Inyo County; thence along the southern boundary of that county to the Nevada State line.

3. The Southern District of California extends southward from the line described in Par. 2, taking in all the balance of the State with the exception of that portion of Imperial County south of an imaginary line running due east and west through Niland.

4. The Imperial District is that portion of Imperial County south of the imaginary line through Niland, and includes the town of Niland.

8b. SPECIAL REPORTS AT FRESNO, CALIF.

In connection with his regular market reports on grapes, C. E. Schultz is issuing from the Fresno office a weekly review of the grape situation each Saturday. Prices and shipments are summarized for the week, and compared with previous periods, brief text commenting on the market high points. In conjunction with the daily report for August 20, Mr. Schultz published a long sheet, showing the freight and icing charges on grapes from Fresno to 58 leading terminal markets. The usual disclaimer clause is printed at the top of the list. Another table shows the freight and refrigeration costs per lug box for various weights, on the basis of 1,000 lugs to a carload, and a third table gives these costs on a per-ton basis.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 12
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Aug. 25 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 6 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Maxwell Block	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 20	Sept. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Grapes Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 30 Sept. 4 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

SPOKANE, WASH.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 2	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y.	837	A. E. Prugh	Peaches Pears Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 8 Sept. 8 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 29 Sept. 29 Oct. 13	Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Jan. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 10	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.**	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following station closes on date indicated:

KEARNEY, NEBR. Post Office Bldg.	930	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	July 28	Closed Aug. 30
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** State Dept. cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

W. H. Mosier - on leave in Columbus.

R. M. Peterson - in Atlanta office.

G. A. DeHaven - in Chicago office.

J. D. Evers - in Philadelphia office.

F. H. Scruggs - in Washington office.

H. E. Rutland - c/o Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. NEW SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS.

Within the next few days, additional shipping-point work will be started in the following sections:

OHIO onions, centering around McGuffey, in Hardin County. Ray C. Bish, of the Cleveland office, will be in charge of this deal.

VIRGINIA apples, in the south central and southwestern parts of the State. A. E. Mercker will have charge of this work.

WEST VIRGINIA apples, in the Martinsburg - Inwood territory. J. J. Gardner will supervise this deal, as in past seasons.

NEW YORK peaches, apples, potatoes and cabbage, centering for the present around Rochester. C. H. Behnke, of the New York City staff, will handle this work temporarily.

MICHIGAN grapes, in the southwest corner of the State. O. N. Harsha will supervise this deal.

SOUTH DAKOTA potatoes, with J. H. Hoover as Supervising Inspector.

FLORIDA citrus fruit inspections probably will start about the middle of September, with Robert Bier again in charge after October 1.

2c. A TEST FOR OILED WRAPS.

The following letter has been received from Dr. D. F. Fisher, Pathologist of B. P. I. located at Wenatchee, in reply to a request for information as to how apple wraps can be tested to determine whether they have been oiled. While it is not likely that Inspectors will be called upon to determine this point, the letter will be of interest to all:

"I do not know of any reliable test other than a chemical determination for the presence of oil. However, it is my opinion, based upon the examination of a large number of samples of different kinds of oiled wraps, that unless a wrap can readily be recognized as oiled it is very likely to be inadequately oiled and therefore not of much value in scald control. We have found that a good rough indication of the effectiveness of oiled paper is to be found in the freedom with which it gives up oil to an ordinary sheet of paper with which it is placed in contact, under a slight pressure, for a few hours. If the ordinary paper takes up no oil from the other sheet, we do not regard it as likely to be effective in scald control. It is unfortunately true that some paper sold as 'oiled' has carried a very small percentage of oil and disappointing results have been obtained. For all practical purposes these wraps might as well not have carried any oil at all. However, most of the commercial oiled paper that I have examined and tested out here has been all right."

3c. ARTICLES FOR "CROPS AND MARKETS."

All Inspectors, and especially those engaged in work at shipping points, are asked to read every word of Par. 3b on page 394 of this D. L. Inspectors frequently meet conditions that would form the basis of a good article, suitable for publication in "Crops and Markets." Your cooperation is invited. Shipping-point inspectors particularly are often located in districts not covered by the Market News Service, and these men have an exceptional opportunity to write articles relating to products never otherwise treated.

4c. FRUIT INSPECTION WORK IN OREGON.

F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector, wrote the following interesting letter from Medford, Oregon, on August 21:

"I have left the Willamette Valley for two days in order to see how the work is progressing here at Medford, and at Roseburg and Grants Pass. The last car of fresh prunes was to be shipped from Roseburg yesterday.

"Nothing is being shipped from Grants Pass now. There may be a car or two of late pears from there before the grapes start in late September.

"At Medford the Bartlett shipments are drawing to a close and the fall varieties (Bosc, Anjou and Comice) are just starting. Some cars of Howells have been shipped the past week.

"Mr. Fish estimates that the season's average of all varieties will show about one-third of the crop packed Extra Fancy and two-thirds Fancy, which will be the reverse of last year when about two-thirds went Extra Fancy. Spring freeze accounts for this reversal of grade proportion. Many pears are frost marked, others deformed. All varieties show many seedless pears; one crop of Howells recently packed showed approximately 90% of these.

"The seedless pears usually are fairly symmetrical but lack the characteristic shape of the variety; many are of small size for the variety. When cut, some of these pears show rudimentary seed cavities, while others show only a brown line through the center and no part which might be called a core.

"The inspectors here are having practically all seedless stock graded down to Fancy (even though it be symmetrical), because it lacks characteristic shape. As you already know, the Oregon Fancy pear grade is wide open; so it takes this stock without a question.

"Many Rogue River growers, as usual, have tried getting by without the last lead spray on the Bartletts. The result is that, on the late picking of this variety, fresh worm puncture and some young calyx worms are found. It is the practice in all packing houses where inspection is taken to cull any pear showing a sting, regardless of any evidence of healing. Nevertheless, some of these youngsters are getting by both as side worms and calyx worms and probably will be found as adults by the market men.

"It is in the Willamette Valley that I attempted to organize an inspection force to start Monday morning, after receiving first notice of the desire for the same while in the Yakima Valley the preceding Friday. I got the force of six men together on time but have been running in bad luck (mostly rain) ever since.

"Mr. Hogue, who is handling the Willamette fresh prune deal for Denney and Company, has been fine to work with. A Buick car has been at my disposal whenever I desired to make the rounds of the loading points (a 200-mile circuit). Without this accommodation, it would have been impossible for me to keep a line on the work.

"Many prune crops show considerable gum spot, probably resulting from drouth. Where the gum leaves a fairly well healed and inconspicuous scar, less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, we have not scored it.

"Drouth also shows up as a shriveled condition at the stem end of the plum, with the flesh beneath brown from oxidation. In a less severe form it appears as a wrinkled area, on the side, with brown corky lines in the flesh beneath.

"Am returning to Salem in the Willamette Valley tonight."

5c. GRADE BOOKLET AND BULLETINS BEING DISTRIBUTED.

Official Grades for the Standardization of Colorado Fruits and Vegetables are being sent out with this issue of the Division Letter.

As stated in last week's Letter, copies of Farmers' Bulletins No. 1059 and 1351, "Sweet Potato Diseases" and "Cabbage Diseases," have been sent to the various offices. Department Circular 220, "Late-Blight Tuber Rot of the Potato," was not included, as it is believed that this was sent out some time ago.

We have a supply of the following bulletins, and each office is requested to investigate its files and see if these publications are on hand. Each Inspector should also have these bulletins in his individual file. If not, copies should be requested from this office immediately:

Department Circular 220: Late-Blight Tuber Rot of the Potato.

Department Circular 219: Phoma Rot of Tomatoes.

Department Circular 214: Fusarium Tuber Rot of Potatoes.

Department Circular 281: Potato Brown-Rot.

Department Circular 217: Anthracnose of Muskmelons.

Department Circular 234: Bacterial Spot of Cucumbers.

Farmers' Bulletin 1060: Onion Diseases and their Control.

Farmers' Bulletin 1367: Control of Potato-Tuber Diseases.

6c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN UTAH.

Writing from Salt Lake City on August 19, E. J. Baehler, Supervising Inspector, sent the following information of importance to all Inspectors:

"I am enclosing a copy of the Utah Pear Grades, which the State has adopted for this season. As you will note, these are the same as the U.S. grades but are designated as Fancy No. 1, No. 1 and No. 2. An Orchard Run grade also has been included. I am not thoroughly satisfied that these designations are advisable in all respects, but in view of the fact that the peach grades are similarly designated and have the unqualified approval of the growers, it was deemed advisable to make the change."

For the information of all concerned, the Orchard Run grade for Utah pears is reprinted below:

"Orchard Run. When the above three grades (Fancy No. 1, No. 1 and No. 2) are packed together, the boxes must be marked 'Orchard Run,' but any pears so marked must not contain any fruit that will not meet the requirements of the No. 2 grade. When designated as 'Orchard Run,' it shall be unlawful to remove any of the higher grade pears and then pack the remainder as 'Orchard Run' except that the larger sizes of all grades may be removed and the rest packed and marked 'Jumble' in addition to the grade mark."

Mr. Baehler's letter continues: "The State of Utah has officially adopted the revised U. S. peach and onion grades, also the lettuce grades. In the peach grades, however, a minimum size has been provided, as in the former State grades, - 2 inches for No. 1 and 1 3/4 inches for No. 2.

"Potato shipments have increased during the last week, and we are now inspecting about 10 or 15 cars per day. The growers had been holding back, with the expectation of higher prices; but, as it appears there is no prospect of this, they are now disposing of their stock. The grading is generally good, but we are reporting some cars below grade. Practically all cars are inspected. Shipments consist principally of Gobblers and Triumphs. Many of the Early Chios show internal discoloration, evidently heat necrosis. On account of this, most of these are being disposed of locally.

"The first car of pears was loaded Saturday (Aug. 16) by the Stratton Fruit Exchange. The grading and pack were excellent, and the indications are that shipments will increase steadily from now on. The quality in general is good.

"Peaches are maturing earlier than was expected. Small lots of the early varieties are now being sold on the local market, and I am informed that the first car of early Elbertas will be loaded next Monday. The crop is short, and it is probable that the size in many cases will be rather small. The quality, however, is good. I have been in a number of orchards, and the fruit usually is remarkably clean and free from defects."

7c. GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES PROMULGATED.

Copies of the official U. S. Grades for Barreled Apples, recently promulgated by the Department, are being sent with this D.L. to all Inspectors. Please note the additional statement regarding decay, etc. at bottom of page 2, and the changes at top of page 3 relating to color requirements of Arkansas (Black Twig) and Baldwin varieties.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Leaving Washington at 3 P.M. on Monday, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Robb will proceed to Chicago for the purpose of attending a conference on Tuesday with railroad officials of the Central Freight Association. This meeting, like the one recently held with western railroad officials has in view the possible extended use of the Inspection Service by the carriers. After returning to Washington, Messrs. Sherman and Robb will go to New York later in the week to attend a similar conference with Trunk Line Association representatives. The New York meeting will be held on September 5. Another such conference will take place in Boston, possibly on the 9th of the month, with officials of the New England Freight Association.

Mr. Stillwell will meet Mr. Sherman in Chicago next Tuesday, and confer with him regarding market news work in the field.

Mr. Samson left Washington last Sunday for a short trip to Chicago and Wisconsin points. He was back at his desk by Thursday morning. In company with R. C. Butner, of the Chicago office, Mr. Samson attended a meeting of cabbage shippers at Kenosha, Wis., on August 26, where the U. S. grades for cabbage were under discussion. As a result of this conference, it is expected that some modification will be made of the size classification for cabbage.

W. C. Hackleman completed his work with the Inspectors' training class in Chicago and is spending this week on annual leave at Knightstown, Ind.. He plans to be back in the New York City office early next week.

H. V. DeMott, auditor in the Domestic Wool Section but now on furlough, is located for the present at 24 Alpine Place, Arlington, N. J., near Jersey City.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A. E. Mercker arrived in Washington a few days ago from Easton, Md., where he had been inspecting peaches. He has left that work in charge of James P. Brown, an inspector who served with him in the southern deals. Mr. Mercker reports that 40 or more cars of peaches will be inspected in that Eastern Shore section, and later about 100 cars of apples. Mr. Brown will shortly proceed to Hancock, Md., to take training in apple inspection work from P. D. Rupert, before resuming the service at Easton.

After spending this week in the Washington office, Mr. Mercker will proceed next week to southwest Virginia and supervise apple inspections in the Blue Ridge region, fairly close to the southern boundary of Virginia. He may be on that deal the entire month of September, located at Roanoke.

While R. C. Bish is at McGuffey, Ohio, the next two months, handling onion inspections at shipping points in that district, S. N. Green will be in charge of the Cleveland office.

J. H. Hoover expects to complete his work on Kaw Valley potatoes this week. His next assignment is in South Dakota, on potato inspections.

R. C. Lindstrom left Oklahoma City, Okla., for Chicago last week and has since gone to Minneapolis, where he will be on vacation until September 6.

Having substituted for B. H. Rowell, in Indianapolis, Ober G. Strauss came to Washington and spent this week in the local office. He will leave shortly for Rocky Mount, N. C., where he will take a vacation, before proceeding to Orlando, Fla., to assist in citrus inspection work the coming season. He expects to arrive at Orlando about September 15.

N. C. Farnworth, who has been on the Washington staff for several months, plans to return to Florida about September 5. He will stop at Jacksonville, to confer with Mr. Rhodes about the season's inspection prospects, and will reach Orlando about the 8th. Orlando will be Mr. Farnworth's headquarters this season; Mrs. Farnworth has accepted a teaching position in the schools of that city. Following a short period of leave, Mr. Farnworth will begin active work on the citrus fruit inspections in Florida about the 20th.

Having completed his period of leave, James A. Marks will proceed from Springdale, Ark. to Pittsburgh, where he will be in temporary charge of the local inspection work during J. J. Gardner's absence on the shipping-point inspection deal in the apple region of northeastern West Virginia.

C. H. Behnke will go from New York City next week and probably make Rochester his headquarters, while he is temporarily supervising the inspection of peaches, apples, potatoes and cabbage at shipping points in western New York.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. E. Kast, of the New York staff, is handling the New Haven office for the present. F. M. Lyle, formerly the Inspector in that city, left New Haven last week, and stopped in the Washington office on Monday en route to Texas, where he has accepted a position on the faculty of the A. & M. College.

O. N. Harsha advises that his present address in Michigan is St. Joseph. He will supervise grape inspections in that territory.

Having been unable to return to duty on account of illness, T. C. Curry will not be back in the Atlanta office until early next week. R. M. Peterson has remained in temporary charge of the work there, but leaves in a few days.

L. H. Wulfekuhl's vacation was not completed until yesterday, and W. H. Mosier has handled the market reporting work in Cincinnati until today. He will be on leave in Columbus for the next week, before proceeding to Waupaca, Wis., to reopen the field station on potatoes at that point.

Because of the delay in first shipments of peaches from western New York, A. E. Prugh remained in the Washington office until last night. He has now proceeded to Rochester, via New York City. Mr. Prugh probably will issue first market reports at Rochester about September 8.

F. H. Scruggs arrived in Washington early this week, following his vacation in Tennessee. He will work on a number of his field station summaries, before going to Martinsburg, W. Va., to issue reports on apples.

G. E. Prince stopped at Caldwell, Idaho, a few days, en route to his next field assignment in Spokane, Wash. He conferred with G. D. Clark, in charge of the Caldwell office.

Upon the return of H. A. Arenz from vacation, B. E. Shaffer, who substituted for him in Milwaukee, returned to Chicago and has been on leave all of this week at Vicksburg, Mich.

After the discontinuance of potato market reports at Kearney, Nebr., this Saturday, H. E. Rutland will come in to Washington on his way to Presque Isle, Maine, his next field assignment. The Kearney mailing list will be transferred to the Denver office, and Mr. Snow will continue to serve the south-central Nebraska growers and shippers the remainder of the season.

Miss Maude E. Norup has been given a temporary appointment in the Washington stencil-cutting room under Mr. Clay's direction.

F. A. Powell, formerly Federal-State Supervisor of the Eagle district of Colorado, is now located temporarily at Fresno, with the California Inspection Service.

OFFICE NOTES: (CONTINUED)

C. E. Schultz, of the Market News Service, addressed the training class of the California Inspection Service in Fresno, Thursday evening, August 14, on the methods of collecting and disseminating market information and the relation of the News Service to the Inspection Service. Mr. Schultz pointed the ever increasing value of the services to the trade and stressed the importance of having prompt, complete and reliable information as the basis for marketing and distribution of fruits and vegetables. Approximately 40 of the California Inspectors were present.

C. W. Hauck, who is making a study of practical application of the newly-established United States grades for grapes, is making his headquarters for a few weeks at the Fresno office of the California Inspection Service at 2117 Inyo Street, Fresno. He is studying the raisin industry for the purpose of determining and securing information which may be used as a basis for establishing grades for raisins for use in transactions between the grower and the buyer or cooperative associations. This work has been undertaken at the request of the Sun Maid Raisin Growers of California, who control approximately 85% of the tonnage of that commodity produced in the United States, and the Bureau is working in very close touch with the association.

The present itinerary of Wm. E. Lewis will find him in Philadelphia the first two days of September; at Trenton and vicinity from the 3rd to the 10th; Ithaca, N. Y., from the 10th to the 14th, and then in Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Lewis is traveling in the interest of the grades for cannery tomatoes.

Mail for F. J. Baehler should be sent in care of our Salt Lake City office, 304 Capitol Building. While supervising shipping-point inspections in Utah, Mr. Baehler's residence address is: Richmond Apts., 70 E. North Temple St., Salt Lake City; phone Wasatch 516.

NOTE: Effective September 1, our MEMPHIS OFFICE will be moved from the County Court House to Room 774, Randolph Building, Memphis. Please change this address on all your records.

Next week's Division Letter will be edited by Mrs. D. K. Dick, in the absence of the regular editor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

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September 5, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. PROGRESS OF MARKET NEWS WORK IN THE WEST.

Mr. Stillwell returned today from a two-months' trip in which he visited the offices in the western States. He found the work in the offices opened a year ago to be well organized. Shippers and growers everywhere are immensely interested in the market news service and the reports issued from the western offices are very popular. The broadcasting of reports by radio has been well developed, particularly in San Francisco and Denver. The efficiency of this work in Denver will be considerably increased within the next six months when a new station now under construction by the General Electric Company is completed. The daily and weekly services of the Associated Press and United Press are being used to a considerable extent, especially in covering particular territories and deals. New reports are also being added to the Western Union C.N.D. service.

The dry weather has cut crops in many sections of the West to a considerable extent. Two sets of figures may be cited to indicate the extent of the water shortage in specific sections. A normal flow of water in the King River, from which most of the water for the Fresno district is taken, is about 2,500 second feet on August 1. This year the flow was only about 100 second feet. The Arrowrock Reservoir in Idaho held about 180,000 acre feet of water on August 1 a year ago. This year only slightly over 2,000 acre feet were in the reservoir. Some potato fields in southwestern Idaho had not been watered since the 26th of June and the yield will be cut accordingly. There appears to be plenty of irrigation water to care for the crop in the Twin Falls and Idaho Falls sections.

The various field station summaries issued during the past year have been especially well received by members of the trade, and Mr. Stillwell reports that in practically every section visited, favorable comments were made upon one or more of these summaries. Special material, including crop statistics, shipments and market comments issued in connection with the daily market reports also have proved to be a popular feature of the market news work. Idaho potato producers were especially anxious to have the General Electric Company at Oakland broadcast potato reports or else to have them broadcasted from the station at Hastings, Nebr. They stated that these two stations reached Idaho points better than any others in the West. After rather lengthy negotiations, Mr. Hansen, in charge of the San Francisco office, finally has arranged to have a brief potato report broadcasted daily from the General Electric Company station at Oakland.

2a. RUBBER STAMPS USED AT BRANCH OFFICES.

Every branch office is requested to send to Washington, marked for the "Attention of Mr. Evans," a sheet containing impressions of every rubber stamp on hand in the office. The name of the office should appear at the top of the sheet.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. REVIEW OF THE NEW YORK LETTUCE MARKET.

Under date of August 28, V. D. Callanan and S. W. Russell released a 3-page mimeographed summary of the 1923-24 season for lettuce on the New York market, covering the period from late November to the first of June, when homegrown stock was off the market and most sales represented shipped-in lettuce from other States. Big Boston-type and Iceberg-type lettuce are discussed separately in statistics of shipments and prices. The first table shows receipts in New York by months, with the percentage each type comprised of the whole supply; the second is of receipts by months and originating States. Table 3 shows lettuce shipments by calendar years, and the next two pages are devoted to receipts and prices by days.

2b. TEST MIMEOGRAPH PAPER.

Upon receipt of mimeograph paper direct from the contractor, one case should be opened at once and tests made of several reams chosen at random from different parts of the case to observe whether the paper works satisfactorily in every respect before the requisition is receipted and forwarded to Washington. In other words, the samples forwarded with the receipted requisition should be representative of the shipment, and whether or not the paper will be satisfactory should be determined before the paper is accepted and paid for. A recent lot of paper, apparently satisfactory upon casual examination, has been found to be of such light weight as to cause considerable trouble.

3b. REPORT ON HALCO SPECIAL MIMEOGRAPH INK.

Very few offices have as yet reported concerning the results obtained from using the sample cans of Halco Special Mimeograph Ink which were forwarded from Washington in accordance with Division Letter of June 27, 1924, Item 1b. All offices which have not yet made a report on the ink are requested to do so at once. If the ink is satisfactory the name of this ink should be specified on requisitions.

4b. PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY POTATOES:

J. D. Evers, in the Philadelphia office, wrote as follows on September 2:

"According to reports from local factors, shipments of potatoes out of the Lehigh County section of Pennsylvania will start moving in good volume about the second week of September. Indications are that the stock is of very good quality, although in some cases slightly over-size. The stand of the crop is reported at 75% to 80%.

"Peak of the New Jersey potato movement has already been reached and it is expected that the daily movement will soon be showing a decline. Shipments up to September 1 inclusive amount to 4,475 cars, compared with 4,054 last season to the same date and 10,813 in 1922. Price returns to the growers are still at a low figure, most Cobblers at shipping points during the past few days ranging from \$1.75 to \$1.85 per 150-lb sack, and Giants mostly around \$1.50. A year ago the same date the f.o.b. market on Jersey Cobblers was \$3.25-3.75 and Giants \$2.40-2.50 per sack."

E. W. STILLWELL

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	Sept. 12
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Aug. 25 Sept. 15	Oct. 31 Sept. 6 Sept. 20 Oct. 31
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Maxwell Block	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupes	Aug. 20	Sept. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** Room 1, Commercial Block	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Grapes Peaches Potatoes Onions Pears	Aug. 30 Sept. 4 Sept. 8 Sept. 22 Sept. 22 Sept. 8	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 27 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 8	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y.	837	A. E. Prugh	Peaches Pears Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 8 Sept. 8 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 29 Sept. 29 Oct. 13	Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Jan. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 10	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.**	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

** State Dept. cooperating.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

W. H. Mosier - on leave in Columbus.

R. M. Peterson - en route to
Minneapolis.

G. A. DeHaven - in Chicago office.

J. D. Evers - in Philadelphia office.

F. H. Scruggs - in Washington office.

H. E. Rutland - c/o Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. THE REVISED HANDBOOK.

All inspectors have been furnished with copies of Part 1 of the revised receiving point Handbook and will receive Part 2 within the next few days.

The revision includes a number of very important points, in fact so many that it will necessitate complete study of the new Handbook by all inspectors regardless of the length of time they have been in the service. It is urged therefore that the Handbook be studied paragraph by paragraph in order that each inspector may not only become familiar with the changes but also refresh his memory on points which have not been changed.

Particular attention is directed to the instruction covering re-inspections in Part 1 and to the portion of Part 2 under the heading "DESCRIPTION OF QUALITY AND CONDITION." It will be noted under this latter heading that the use of general terms which have been very much abused by many of our inspectors has been greatly restricted. This is highly important for we have received complaints from a number of different sources to the effect that the certificates contained so many "mostlys" "somes" "fews" that they were too indefinite to be of any value to the applicants.

There was at one time a hesitancy in using exact percentages because of the fear that the samples examined were not representative of the lot as a whole. In order that our certificates may more nearly show the way in which inspections are made, the wording of the introductory statement has been changed to show that the inspector is certifying that the inspected "samples, believed by me to be representative of the lot of products described below" show that the "quality and condition of said lot as shown by said samples were as shown below."

Under this revised introductory statement we can go a little further in stating exact percentages than under the old form in which the wording indicated that we were giving figures for the entire lot. We know that the trade will welcome the more exact figures.

This section also emphasizes the fact that the larger the number of samples the greater the justification for giving exact figures. The fact is also emphasized that any factor of condition, especially maturity, which is undesirable commercially must always be given in exact or approximate percentage.

Our District Supervisors will check all certificates carefully in the future in order to determine whether inspectors are following these directions. Any inquiries regarding the new policy should be directed either to the supervisors or to the Washington office.

2c. ROCKY FORD CANTALOUPE GOOD QUALITY THIS YEAR.

R. L. Sutton writes from Rocky Ford, Colo., that the cantaloupe crop there is of excellent quality. He advises members of the Division who like a deliciously flavored cantaloupe to get some Rocky Ford Salmon Tints, Hearts of Gold, or Pink Heats. He expects an active demand as soon as consumers discover the fine quality of Colorado melons this year although the dealers may have some difficulty in overcoming the prejudice aroused last season because of poor quality stock from Rocky Ford. Mr. Sutton's article on the Rocky Ford deal will appear in the September 6 Crops and Markets.

3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR.

Federal-State shipping point inspections for the fiscal years 1923-24 in various States were as follows:

State	1923	1924	State	1923	1924
Alabama		251	New Jersey	1,499	719
Arkansas		88	New York	905	1,475
California	17,778	46,424	North Carolina		566
Colorado	24,815	10,341	North Dakota	432	
Delaware		50	Ohio	78	169
Florida	162	8,310 8,270	Oregon	387	1,035 4,442
Georgia	45	1,392	Pennsylvania		274
Idaho	13,338	18,403	South Carolina	1,091	1,712
Illinois		208	South Dakota	308	368
Louisiana		266	Tennessee	51	232
Maine	384		Texas		6,349
Massachusetts	67	7	Utah	651	1,642
Mississippi		1898 709	Virginia	4	526
Missouri	36		Washington	8,917	15,360
Montana	444	305	West Virginia	39	232
Nebraska		4,830	Wisconsin	1,035	2,305
Nevada		34	Totals	72,466	125,542 129,049 + 187

In addition to the above, there were 1,910 straight Federal inspections in Arizona, Indiana, Kansas and Missouri during the year 1924.

Of the total of ~~127,452~~ ^{129,049 + 187} cars inspected at shipping points, there were 261 reinspections made at receiving markets, 142 of which sustained the original inspection.

4c. IN CROPS AND MARKETS FOR AUGUST 30:

- Page 134 - Special paragraph on potatoes in weekly review.
 135 - Colorado Lettuce in Demand, - by J. D. Snow.
 - Potatoes at Stockton, Calif., - by C. J. Hansen.
 136 - Colorado Pears Moving to Market, - by R. H. Lamb.
 - Northwestern Drought Broken, - by R. L. Ringer.
 - Minnesota Potato Situation, - by R. M. Ferguson.
 - Prunes in France.

F. G. ROBB,
 Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

E. E. Conklin, Jr., probably will not return to Washington until September 15, or later, following his vacation at Syracuse, N. Y. Mrs. Conklin has contracted typhoid fever and is ill in that city.

Robert Bier is on leave at 434 North Seventh St., Sunbury, Pa., from September 2 to 13.

From Pleasant Valley, Iowa, C. D. Shirley has gone to St. Ansgar, Iowa, reaching there today. He will handle the inspection of onions in that territory.

OFFICE NOTED (Continued)

W. F. Plummer has been assigned to the New Haven office permanently, and E. G. Batsford, of the New York staff, will succeed Mr. Plummer as Navy Inspector at Boston.

A full-page article entitled "Phenomenal Growth of Inspection Service Shown" appeared on the front pages of the August 26 and 27 issue of The B.A.E. News and Marketing Activities. The article mentions first the 50 per cent increase in the number of inspections during the fiscal year and discusses the great advance in shipping^{point} work in various States, notably Florida and California, pointing out some future possibilities in this part of the service.

J. D. Evers, who has been substituting for J. G. Scott in the Philadelphia office, will remain there during E. R. Biddle's absence on leave, from September 3 to 19.

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Robb met the traffic committee of the Central Freight Association in Chicago and discussed with them the possibility of more extensive use of the inspection service on the part of carriers. They will attend the similar meeting of the Trunk Lines Association in New York City on September 5 and of the New England Association at Boston on September 9. While in Chicago, Messrs. Sherman and Robb both addressed the training class for inspectors, and discussed various personnel matters with Mr. Butner.

J. J. Gardner arrived at Martinsburg, W. Va., on September 2, to take charge of apple inspections in that vicinity during the next few weeks. J. A. Marks returned to Pittsburgh on that date and will be in charge of the work there in Mr. Gardner's absence.

W. C. Lynn's mail address until September 15 will be P. O. Box 118, Chambersburg, Pa.

Having left the State of Washington, R. R. Pailthorp will stop in Boise, Ida., for a few days, and proceed to Denver to discuss the rejection of fruits and vegetables in receiving markets with E. F. McKune and members of the State Extension Service.

A recent change in home address is that for S. F. Shreve, who lives now at Apartment 11, 918 M Street, Washington. His telephone number remains the same as previously given.

New headquarters for the shipping-point inspection service on grapes in Michigan will be Room 3, Commercial Block, Benton Harbor, Mich.

R. C. Bish, inspecting onions in Ohio, will have his headquarters at the Hotel St. Nicholas, Kenton, Ohio.

W. C. Hackleman stopped September 2, for a few days' stay in Buffalo on his way back to New York.

OFFICE NOTES; (Continued)

S. F. Shreve spent September 2 and 3 at Easton, Md., assisting James P. Brown, who is handling apple inspections there. It is expected that about 100 cars of apples will be certified in that territory during the next two or three weeks.

From Richmond, A. E. Mercker has gone to Charlotte, Va., instead of to Roanoke. He will supervise the training of men for apple inspections there and not at Roanoke, as originally planned.

A special report on cantaloupes for the benefit of Turlock growers and dealers which has been issued by C. J. Hansen, at San Francisco, will be discontinued September 6.

Wm. E. Lewis is in New Jersey, making an investigation to determine the practicability of the present United States grades for cannery tomatoes. This is being carried on in cooperation with the New Jersey Bureau of Markets.

R. A. Smith advises that the Memphis office of the Inspection Service moved on September 2 to 774 Randolph Building, telephone number Main 4916.

It has recently been learned that E. H. Seifert, Jr., formerly with the market news service, caught a 172-pound blue-fin tuna this summer. Landing this fish took Mr. Seifert five hours and forty-two minutes. This is the largest tuna caught since 1910 and the fourth largest on record.

H. E. Rutland is in Washington today, en route to Presque Isle, Me. Mr. Rutland spent yesterday at Boston Harbor with R. H. Shoemaker and probably will stop a day each in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, on his way to Presque Isle, Me.

After T. C. Curry's return to the Atlanta office on August 30, R. L. Peterson left by automobile for Minneapolis. A wire from L. A. Wulfelshl advises that Mr. Peterson passed through Cincinnati September 4. His itinerary from there is as follows: Detroit Saturday, Chicago Monday, and Minneapolis Wednesday.

On Saturday, R. C. Butner will go to Ames, Iowa, to discuss the cooperative agreement covering inspection work with the State Extension Service.

Rockefeller says he is grateful for the opportunity of being of service to his fellow men. You've noticed the stations, of course.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 37

September 12, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. EASTERN SHORE GROWERS DISCOURAGED.

J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, was alert for news, while on his vacation at Princess Anne, Md., as shown in this letter of September 8:

"While on my vacation down in Maryland, I had an opportunity to inquire into conditions in that territory and thought perhaps you would be interested in the matter:

"In the lower section of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where corn and potatoes are the principal crops, the farmers are very discouraged with their year's work. In the first place, the early spring was very wet, and then they had practically no rain at all until a few weeks ago. As you know, the potato crop was heavy and growers who made expenses consider themselves lucky. Several told me that they actually lost money, not counting their own labor. The corn crop is very poor on account of the dry weather, and many farmers will have to buy feed this winter. The strawberry crop was about two weeks late and, while the yield was good, the cost of labor and marketing was higher than ever before and very little money was made on this crop. The sweet potato yield was poor, and lima beans and sweet corn are so scarce that they cannot be bought in the country towns. The few growers who had snap beans, cucumbers, early lima beans and cantaloupes made a profit on these. Early tomatoes were of such poor quality that they were hardly worth shipping. Many farmers in this section are in very bad financial condition and I heard of several who will actually be forced to sell out this fall.

"Up in Delaware and that portion of the Eastern Shore just west of Delaware, where crops are more diversified, conditions are much better. For some unknown reason this section received more summer rains than the lower counties. Cucumbers, summer apples, and cantaloupes paid well. The peach crop is heavy, and strawberries paid better than those in southern Maryland. Their lima beans brought fancy prices and snap beans also were raised at a profit.

"Throughout the entire peninsula growers have about come to the conclusion that their only salvation is to raise a greater variety of crops. With good roads and a season about a week earlier than New Jersey, they believe that they will be able to give Jersey vegetables stiff competition on the Philadelphia and New York markets by using motor trucks. This year has forced growers on the Eastern Shore of Virginia to give up the idea that the potato is the only crop which they can grow. There is considerable talk of cutting down the white and sweet potato acreage and trying cotton. Being surrounded on three sides by water, they believe the climate suitable and they think that they will be immune from the boll weevil. Just how this will turn out, time only will tell."

2a. HAS ANYTHING GONE WRONG?

If anything has gone wrong about supplies, expense or salary checks, vouchers or other similar matters, don't just storm and fume about it and "take it out" on the first field man you meet, but sit down and write to Mr. Evans at Washington. Seriously, - unless he learns of matters that are not satisfactory, he has no opportunity to apply a remedy. The Washington office is very anxious to assist the field man and desires an opportunity to make improvements in methods of handling administrative matters. Therefore, pour out your wrath on Mr. Evans next time, and see what happens.

3a. NEW BULLETIN ON MARKETING OF CABBAGE.

Dr. A. E. Cance, Consulting Specialist, and G. B. Fiske, of the F. & V. Division, are joint authors of Department Bulletin No. 1242, which came from the press a few days ago. This bulletin treats the subject, "Marketing Cabbage," in a most interesting and helpful manner. The 60-page book not only covers every important phase of the subject but is illustrated with a total of 30 half-tone cuts, maps and charts. Statistical tables relating to acreage, production, shipments, unloads, freight rates, jobbing prices, etc., close the bulletin, and there is a supplementary list of Publications on Cabbage.

(Continued from Page 424)

OFFICE NOTES:

In connection with the observance of Defense Day, V. G. Gibson has advised that this afternoon will be a half-holiday in St. Louis.

Probably within the next week, our San Francisco office will be moved from the Appraiser's Building to larger quarters in Rooms 1 and 2, Ferry Building. SPECIAL CARE should be taken to change all address lists and addressograph plates accordingly.

This Saturday, September 13, will be the last half-holiday for the summer. The full Saturday schedule will be resumed on September 20.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ADDITIONS TO "MI-MO" (GRAPES) PAGE OF CODE, - EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 18.

On the "MI-MO" (Grapes) page of the code, add

OB	Burger	OX	Mission
OC	Carignane	OY	Petite Sirah
OR	Grenache		

2b. SEND F.O.B. PRICES IN ENGLISH.

In checking over reports issued in our market and field stations, more errors are found in the f.o.b. reports than in any other part of the bulletins. It is hardly feasible to send the f.o.b. wires entirely in English, but it is believed that the most serious mistakes will be eliminated if all prices in the f.o.b. reports are sent in English. Upon receipt of this Division Letter, therefore, all prices in the f.o.b. wires will be transmitted in English. Code phrases will be used for the balance of the report, as heretofore.

3b. UNAVOIDABLE DELAY IN NEW YORK GRAPE AUCTION REPORT.

The following letter of September 10, from V. D. Callanan, of the New York office, is self-explanatory:

"As you probably have noted in the trade papers, California grapes are being sold to a very large extent at Jersey City this season instead of Pier 20, New York. Because of this change, it has been difficult to obtain the auction reports from Mr. Leitzer until late in the afternoon, and on Mondays when the volume is exceptionally heavy it is usually not possible to secure the information before 6:30 p.m. We will endeavor to obtain this report each evening, but, when the information is not secured before the time of leaving the office, it will be filed first thing the following morning. In every case, however, we will furnish the New York City quotations promptly upon receipt each afternoon."

4b. NEW YORK GRAPE, CARROT AND PEACH PROSPECTS.

In connection with a recent letter from Rochester, A. E. Prugh submitted a lengthy clipping from The Rochester Herald, which covered the grape and carrot situation in western New York. Prospects for grapes are favorable, with a heavier yield expected than last year. The estimated crop of 74,000 tons represents a 20% increase over 1923. The backward season and possibility of frosts are causes of anxiety at present.

Carrot acreage is the largest ever, about 1,256 acres or double last year's plantings and four times those of 1922. High prices received last season appear to be the chief cause of the increasing interest in this crop.

Mr. Prugh states that Elberta peaches will be very late, with no considerable volume expected before September 25. Bartlett pears were expected to start moving between the 12th and 15th of this month. He reported a few minutes' snow on the morning of September 6.

5b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 6:

- Page 149 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in weekly review.
151 - Southern Potatoes Sold Low. (review of early potato season)
- Rocky Ford Cantaloupes Good, - by R. L. Sutton.
152 - California Grape Shipments Increase. (based on review by
C. E. Schultz)
155 - The British Citrus Fruit Market.

6b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS.

The following summaries of 1923 field deals were recently distributed:

- THE IDAHO LETTUCE DEAL, by A. E. Prugh, - comprising 19 pages.
MICHIGAN PEACH DEAL, by R. H. Shoemaker, - comprising 17 pages.
MICHIGAN GRAPE DEAL, by R. H. Shoemaker, - comprising 25 pages.

Special features of the Idaho lettuce summary are a front-page map of the State, showing principal producing sections; approximate running time to leading markets, and a table of weather conditions during last 15 years with special reference to frosts. The inspection service also is treated.

The Michigan peach summary carries in full the State grades for this fruit.

7b. SPECIAL MAP OF CALIFORNIA.

On September 4, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, issued a special mimeographed map of California, showing plainly the four producing districts as used in the Market News Service and as described in Par. 7b of the D. L. for August 29. The detailed description of boundary lines is printed with the map. This sheet is very useful for reference in connection with daily shipment reports, and copies doubtless can be obtained from Mr. Harris.

A day later, C. E. Schultz, of the Fresno office, also mimeographed and distributed a similar map of California to all on his mailing list. A case of "great minds running in the same channel," for each of these men was ignorant of the fact that the other was distributing such a map.

8b. CHECK UP DATES ON FIELD STATION LIST.

All field men are requested to check the opening and closing dates for market reports as shown on the list of field stations, and advise the Washington office of any errors. Being on the ground and familiar with conditions, local representatives are in position to offer suggestions in this matter. Help us to keep the list of field market reports correct.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
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BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** Room 1, Commercial Block	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears Grapes Peaches Potatoes Onions	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 13 Sept. 22	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 30 Oct. 18 Oct. 18
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

ROCHESTER, N. Y. Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Peaches Pears Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 22 Sept. 22 Sept. 29 Sept. 29 Sept. 15	Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Jan. 10
WAUPACA, WIS.**	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following station closes on date indicated:

CALDWELL, IDAHO Commercial Club Rooms	928	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	July 22	<u>Closed</u> Sept. 19 17
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** State Dept. cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

J. D. Evers - in Philadelphia office;
after Sept. 15 in Boston.

F. H. Scruggs - in Washington office.

G. A. DeHaven - in Chicago office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. INSPECTION OF ONIONS ON REVISED GRADES.

A number of questions recently have arisen regarding the inspection of onions on the basis of the revised grades. These grades provide that "unless otherwise specified the minimum size shall be $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter." A large percentage of eastern onions are now actually being packed on the basis of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum size. Therefore, in cases where it appears that stock does not meet the $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch minimum, inspection should be made to determine whether lot meets the requirements of U. S. No. 1, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum. If it meets the latter requirements, the grade statement should read "U. S. Grade No. 1, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum." If the statement "Grades U. S. No. 1" is used without any qualification as to size, it will be understood that the onions meet the $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch minimum requirements.

This method probably will have to be continued at least until shippers throughout the country become familiar with provisions of the new grades.

2c. COLORADO CANTALOUPE INSPECTIONS.

In a letter of September 5, Neal D. Sanborn, who is supervising the inspection of cantaloupes in the Rocky Ford section of Colorado, gives the following information of general interest:

"Regarding the procedure in the cantaloupe inspection work, I have been late in explaining: In a meeting of growers and distributors held August 19, the U. S. grades were adopted as the basis for inspection. Ten per cent was placed as the minimum sugar test for mature melons. The placing of the minimum and average sugar tests on the certificate was made optional with the applicant. The inspectors are required to take frequent tests, however, as a means of checking up their judgment of maturity. The quality of the melons here this year is exceptional, and stock testing below the ten per cent minimum is of rather poor quality, lacking in appearance and flavor compared with the average melons.

"The peak of the season has been reached but rather heavy shipments will continue for at least two weeks. About 900 cars have been inspected and I believe the total will be between 2,000 and 2,500 cars. The Honey Dew melons will likely last until about October 1, unless damaged by severe early frosts.

"We are not using the U. S. watermelon grades on the few cars being shipped. The melons are of very good quality but in only a few cases would comply with the size requirements of the grades.

"All cars inspected are marked with the abbreviation 'Colo.' and the date of inspection."

NOTE THE REVISED LIST OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTORS WITH THIS D.L.
Discard previous lists.

3c. MORE ABOUT IDAHO POTATOES AND PRUNES.

Publication of the following extract was unavoidably delayed. It is from a letter written August 30 by L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho:

"You have probably noticed from the market reports that the potato movement in Idaho has continued to drag along and even yet there is no prospect for any great increase in shipments during the next ten days or two weeks. I have just returned from a trip over the entire section from here to Weiser, including both Canyon and Malheur counties, and spent most of my time assisting the boys with the first prune shipments.

"The total movement of prunes will be far below the original estimates and now the consensus of opinion is that there will be not more than 600 or 700 cars from the entire section, compared with 2,500 last year. The quality in most districts is not up to standard, and many cars will be shipped which do not make No. 1 grade. The chief trouble is with sunburned and shrivelled prunes, and in some cases bad gumming from heat and drouth spots. In some orchards the prunes have shrivelled at the stem end before they were picked, this being something very unusual. This condition has been attributed to several causes, but it is the general belief that the heavy crop last year, the spring frosts, and extremely hot and dry weather have all been more or less responsible for the damage. This next week will see the prune movement at full speed, as they have been ripening very fast the last few days."

4c. CANTALOUPE AND OTHER PRODUCTS IN COLORADO.

E. F. McKune, Federal Supervising Inspector for Colorado, wrote from Denver on September 2 as follows:

"Recently Mr. Sanborn held a meeting with the growers and shippers of the Rocky Ford district for the purpose of determining the minimum requirements for cantaloupes permitted shipment. It was decided that all cantaloupes should be inspected and graded in accordance with the U. S. grades, and that no cantaloupes should be moved from the valley unless they show a sugar content of ten (10).

"I am planning to visit the Rocky Ford district, to investigate the shipments of onions and apples from that section. Our heavy season is on at the present time, and we are inspecting approximately 100 cars daily, mostly peaches, cantaloupes, potatoes, cabbage and head lettuce.

"The head lettuce deal is not going to materialize to the degree that the trade anticipated. This decrease has been caused by an extended dry period over the entire State."

5c. NEW CIRCULAR ON GRAPE GRADES.

The California State Department of Agriculture has issued a new memorandum of instructions, Series A, No. 6, regarding the use of table and juice grape grades, dated August 29, 1924. This memorandum supersedes that issued on July 18. We have only a limited supply at the present time and are therefore sending only one copy to each office. We have requested additional copies of this sheet, however, and when these are received a copy will be sent to each Inspector.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspec- tions for Carriers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	9	25	34	66	13	2	\$136	\$ -	\$ 8
Baltimore	10	7	17	24	1	0	64	2.50	-
Boston	42	50	92	93	23	0	364	-	21
Buffalo	27	23	50	34	10	1	164	20.00	12
Chicago	77	93	170	120	3	5	696	15.00	33
Cincinnati	4	7	11	28	1	0	44	-	3
Cleveland	47	99	146	103	68	1	528	35.00	64
Columbus	10	1	11	51	4	0	44	-	-
Denver	3	3	6	7	0	0	24	-	-
Detroit	50	38	88	55	9	0	352	-	19
Harrisburg	0	1	1	0	0	2	4	-	1
Indianapolis	13	3	16	22	0	0	60	2.50	2
Kansas City	20	12	32	34	2	0	124	2.50	4
Memphis	9	17	26	29	22	0	100	-	9
Milwaukee	12	19	31	25	4	0	124	-	2
Minneapolis	17	6	23	22	0	0	88	2.50	1
New Haven	6	19	25	16	0	0	96	2.50	9
New Orleans	26	124	150	108	114	0	520	50.00	5
New York	231	345	576	202	94	7	1384	210.00	180
Norfolk	3	325	328	18	2	0	1300	7.50	2
Omaha	6	5	11	20	0	0	40	2.50	-
Philadelphia	29	15	44	32	15	1	172	2.50	5
Pittsburgh	63	46	109	143	40	2	408	22.50	24
Portland	52	5	57	5	0	0	216	7.50	1
St. Louis	116	78	194	96	130	3	724	15.00	34
Washington	6	12	18	18	2	0	60	7.50	8
Wilkes-Barre	14	8	22	17	8	3	64	-	6
TOTAL	902	1386	2288	1388	565	27	\$7900	\$407.50	\$453

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections...902 | Inspections for Carriers.....565
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...1386 | Declined for lack of time.... 27
 GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.. 2288 | TOTAL Fees Assessed.... \$8789.50*

*Total Fees Assessed includes \$29.00 for inspection of mixed cars.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING AUGUST, 1924

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with specifications		Items billed short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	194423	6059	520	90	194943	6149	248	0	0	0
NEW YORK	328320	83483	16511	392	344831	83875	543	41	0	0
NORFOLK	741601	32415	51514	496	793115	32911	1940	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	309420	18966	6134	450	315554	19416	2142	110	0	0
SAN DIEGO	322391	78184	14208	1574	336599	79758	233	114	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	62627	-	2560	-	65187	-	0	-	0	-
VALLEJO	298589	42903	3839	9025	302428	51928	1004	683	0	0
TOTALS	2257371	262010	95286	12027	2352657	274037	6110	948	0	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	29911	0	29911	0	0
NORFOLK	62355	2475	64830	510	2
TOTALS	92766	2475	95241	510	2

In addition to the above, the Norfolk office inspected other products including fresh, cured and smoked meats, fowl, sea foods, dairy products, bakery products and ice cream; in the following amounts:

	Navy	Marines
Passed	46153	400
Rejected	379	5
TOTAL	46432	400

The Vallejo office also inspected 39,425 lbs. of bread and 865 lbs. of rolls for the Navy in addition to the above-mentioned fruits and vegetables,

See Appendix to Report Page 421

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Robb returned yesterday from the Boston meeting with railroad officials. While in Boston, Mr. Robb made new arrangements for handling the Navy inspection work formerly handled by W.F. Plummer in that city. It had been intended to send E. G. Batsford from New York to Boston, but the inspection of all supplies for the Navy at that base will be looked after by the B.A.I. inspector, with such assistance from our Boston office as may be necessary in emergencies.

W. F. Plummer is expected to take over the New Haven office on the 15th, and F. E. Kast will soon thereafter return to his headquarters in New York City.

The news is out:- During the recent peach season, Walter H. Steinbauer, of the Boston office, devoted himself especially to Georgia belles. He is being congratulated on his marriage to Miss Mary Belle Houser, of Fort Valley, Ga. Miss Houser had been employed in our Fort Valley office, and is well known to F. & V. Division men who have worked in Georgia. The wedding took place in Macon on August 15.

F. E. Hooper, who has been assisting in the Boston office of the Inspection Service, is now on leave at Revere, Mass., until September 19.

On Wednesday, Mr. Samson held a conference with apple growers at Leesburg, Va., to discuss the interpretation of the U.S. grades for apples.

En route from the Pittsburgh office to Fort Worth, M.C. Gregory will take his annual leave at Kahoka, Mo., September 13 to 29. It is expected that inspection work will be resumed at Fort Worth early in October.

J. H. Hoover advises that his present address on shipping-point inspection work is Watertown, S. Dak. He states that potato crop prospects are good in that region; though the acreage has been reduced about 25%, yields are expected to be better than last season.

Both A. E. Mercker and F.E. Parsons can be addressed for the present at Room 605, National Bank Building, Charlottesville, Va. Mr. Mercker's address was given incorrectly in last week's D.L. as "Charlotte." A class of 12 men has reported for training in apple inspection work, and interest in inspection is greater than ever before in that district.

W.C. Lynn now advises that mail can be sent to him in care of the Farm Bureau, County Court House, Chambersburg, Pa., while he is looking after shipping-point inspections in that region.

R. C. Lindstrom returned to Chicago on September 8, after his vacation in Minnesota, and has now proceeded to Philadelphia, where he will be in permanent charge of the Inspection office, vice Mr. Warren.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

G. R. Warren will proceed from Philadelphia to New York City and assist with inspections there for a few weeks, before he goes to Florida to help in the shipping-point work in that State.

H. T. Longino remained in New Orleans until today, assisting with local inspections. After taking the remainder of his annual leave, he will reopen the Houston, Texas, office about September 22. Please note that the Houston office is no longer in the Southern Pacific Building, but will be in Room 314, First National Bank Building. Change your address list.

R. M. Peterson advised that he reached Minneapolis safely and is again on the job in that city. He will handle the inspection work.

Mail for Inspector G. M. Beeson should be sent to P. O. Box 253, Norfolk, Va., instead of our Norfolk office. This will save the day's time required to forward mail from the Board of Trade Building.

From September 6 to 18, Edgar Krumm, of the New York inspection staff, is on leave at Sharon Hill, Pa.

F. S. Kinsey has reached Wenatchee, Wash., and will again have his headquarters with the State office in the Court House, Wenatchee.

C. H. Behnke proceeded from New York City to Rochester yesterday. While supervising shipping-point inspections in western New York, Mr. Behnke will have his headquarters with State Inspector H. S. Duncan, Room 505, Duffy-Powers Building, Rochester.

Returning to Dover, Delaware, about September 15, F. S. Zimmerman will supervise the shipping-point inspection work on grapes and late apples.

It should be noted that the Rochester office of the Market News Service is not in Room 39 Federal Building this season, as those quarters have been occupied by the District Attorney. A. E. Prugh has secured offices in the Triangle Building, and has obtained permission to erect an aerial from the flagpole of the Triangle Building to the flagpole of the Cutler Building, for use in the reception of radio telegraphic reports from Washington. During the last few days, Mr. Prugh has been a trip to nearby producing sections, for the purpose of arranging f.o.b. reports on fruits and vegetables.

J. E. Dickerson, supervising onion inspections around Warsaw, Indiana, has licensed eight local inspectors to handle this work. He believes that 1,700 to 1,900 cars will be inspected this season.

After page 417 of this D. L. was stenciled and ready for the mimeograph, a telegram was received from G. D. Clark, to the effect that he would continue market reports at Caldwell, Idaho, until September 19, instead of closing that office on the 12th as originally planned. He will not move to Idaho Falls until about September 22.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

J. B. Wright, who substituted for S. H. Fountain, Navy Inspector at Vallejo, Calif., left there on August 28 and returned to his San Pedro office, but has since gone to San Diego, where he is handling the Navy work in the absence of Walter Kingsbury on vacation until September 19.

A new cooperative inspector in California is Samuel Preston. His appointment was effective on September 1. Mr. Preston can be reached through W. F. Allewelt's office, at Sacramento.

Miss Marguerite J. Stapleton has been appointed as clerk-typist in the Cleveland office, succeeding Mrs. Elizabeth Dite, who resigned some weeks ago.

Beginning September 18, P. D. Rupert will go on annual leave from Hancock, Md. About October 1, Mr. Rupert will report to the Washington office, where he will handle the local inspections and assist with other duties in Inspection headquarters. J. J. Gardner, now located at Hotel Berkeley, Martinsburg, W. Va., will supervise the apple inspections in western Maryland along with the work in eastern West Virginia and western Virginia. Until Mr. Rupert's arrival, S. F. Shreve is handling Washington inspections together with his work in Baltimore.

J. Wm. Park plans to leave on the 16th for California, where he will make investigations looking to the establishment of grades for walnuts. Mr. Park will first confer with Mr. Allewelt, at Sacramento, and then probably make Los Angeles his headquarters for the next six weeks. Much of his work will be done in connection with the California Walnut Growers' Assn.

A wire from Wm. E. Lewis states that he left Ithaca, N.Y., on September 8, and would be in Rochester until further notice. He is traveling in the interest of the grades for cannery tomatoes.

R. R. Pailthorp was expected to reach Cedar Rapids, Iowa, by the 10th, where he will take a few days' leave, before proceeding to Washington.

On Wednesday, L. G. Schultz left Boise, Idaho, for Lewiston, via Walla Walla, Wash., to confer with local inspectors regarding shipping-point work in that territory. He expects to go to Missoula, Mont., in the near future, to confer with W. L. Shovell, of the Division of Horticulture, about Montana inspections.

W. H. Mosier has proceeded to Wisconsin, and is on a few days' field trip to principal potato shipping-points before opening the Waupaca office on September 18.

Having substituted in the Philadelphia office during the past month, Jos. D. Evers will go to Boston on Monday and relieve H. S. Stiles for about ten days, while the latter is on leave. Mr. Evers will then start a year's furlough, to complete his course in the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. (See Page 414)

FEDERAL AND COOPERATIVE MEN ENGAGED IN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

9/12/24.

FLORIDA:..... N. C. Farnworth, General Delivery, Orlando, Fla.
O. G. Strauss, General Delivery, Orlando, Fla.

VIRGINIA:..... F. E. Parsons, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.
A. E. Mercker, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.

WEST VIRGINIA &
W. MARYLAND:.. J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.

E. MARYLAND:.... J. P. Brown, Easton, Md.

DELAWARE:..... F. S. Zimmerman, c/o State Bureau of Markets, Dover, Del.

NEW JERSEY:..... W. V. Stephens, Coles Hotel, Moorestown, N. J.

PENNSYLVANIA:... W. C. Lynn, Farm Bureau, Court House, Chambersburg, Pa.

NEW YORK:..... C. H. Behnke, 505 Duffy-Powers Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.

OHIO:..... R. C. Bish, St. Nicholas Hotel, Kenton, Ohio.

INDIANA:..... J. E. Dickerson, General Delivery, Warsaw, Ind.

MICHIGAN:..... O. N. Harsha, Room 3, Commercial Block, Benton Harbor, Mich.

WISCONSIN:..... B. B. Jones, State Dept. of Markets, Madison, Wis.

IOWA:..... C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Iowa.

SOUTH DAKOTA:... J. H. Hoover, Watertown, S. Dak.

NEBRASKA:..... V. V. Westgate, 435 Keeline Bldg., Omaha, Nebr.

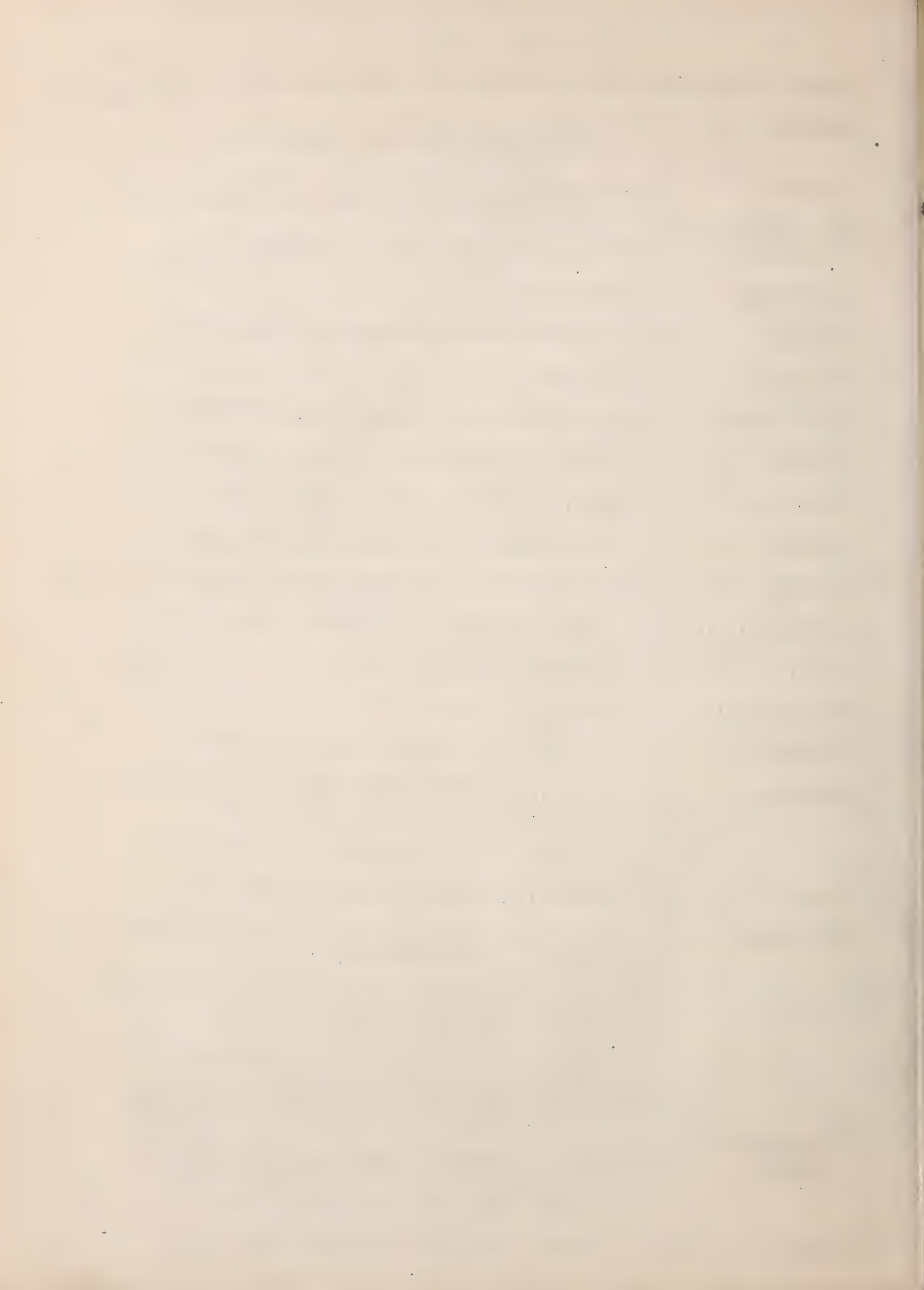
COLORADO:..... E. F. McKune, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
P. A. Cauble, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, Colo.
G. W. Dyer, Delta, Colo.
N. D. Sanborn, Maxwell Block, Rocky Ford, Colo.

UTAH:..... F. J. Baehler, 304 Capitol Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

CALIFORNIA:..... W. F. Allewelt, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
C. H. Beasley, Watsonville, Calif.
F. C. Cadvallader, _____, Calif.
H. F. Larson, 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles.
C. E. Linwood, 2117 Inyo St., Fresno, Calif.
K. R. Nutting, Sebastopol, Calif.
H. W. Peterson, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
E. J. Powell, 2117 Inyo St., Fresno, Calif.
Sam'l Preston, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.
S. S. Rogers, State Dept. of Agr., Sacramento, Calif.

WASHINGTON &
OREGON:..... F. E. Bailey, 423 Federal Bldg., Spokane, Wash.
W. L. Close, Court House, Yakima, Wash.
F. S. Kinsey, Court House, Wenatchee, Wash.

IDAHO:..... L. G. Schultz, State Dept. of Agr., Boise, Idaho.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 38

September 19, 1924

(Contents Confidential)

1a. REPORT ON AUTOMOBILE NUMBERS.

Every field representative of this Division operating a Government-owned automobile is requested to advise the Washington Office at once the number of the license furnished him by this Department and the number of the motor.

2a. PUBLICITY FOR WORK IN OREGON.

"Government Helps Start Business-like Marketing of Agricultural Products" is the heading of a four-column article in the Sunday Oregonian, Portland, September 7. This story by Randall R. Howard is based on information furnished by Mr. Ringer, of the Portland office. The very interesting article is illustrated with a picture showing the grading of potatoes and a photograph of Mr. Ringer, inspecting a carload of peaches. It describes clearly the effective work being done by this Bureau in the State of Oregon, and quotes freely from the Secretary's annual report as printed in the 1923 Yearbook of the Department.

3a. WISCONSIN CABBAGE SITUATION.

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, furnished the following information on September 15:

"While the acreage planted to Danish cabbage in Wisconsin is approximately the same as last year, there is quite a decrease in the kraut cabbage acreage, particularly in the northern section. This decrease is undoubtedly attributable mainly to the prevailing low prices during the wind-up of the kraut cutting season last fall. Prices started out high, but broke rapidly from about \$15 per ton to about \$7 per ton, and sales as low as \$5 were reported for good kraut stock. The average price paid for Danish stock was much higher than for Domestic, and growers, following an almost unvarying rule, decreased their acreage of the low-priced variety and increased their acreage of the better-paying variety.

"It is estimated that about 20% of the Wisconsin cabbage acreage is planted for kraut purposes. There are some 30 kraut factories in the State and the amount of cabbage used by these factories from year to year varies from 1,000 to 1,500 tons, depending on the size of the crop and the prevailing prices. The largest factories cut from 2,500 to 3,000 tons each season. There is also a great deal of kraut cabbage shipped to large middlewestern markets, Chicago alone using 75 to 100 cars each season for kraut making.

"Wisconsin's total cabbage shipments last year were 5,552 cars. The average price for Danish stock at shipping points during the harvesting season was around \$20 per ton, carloads f.o.b. usual terms, although this type sold up to \$35 for a short time during the winter. Dealers reported a fairly heavy shrinkage of stored stock, running from 20% to 30%. Much of this year's kraut cabbage has been contracted at prevailing price around \$7 per ton."

4a. INTERESTING DATA ON GEORGIA PEACHES.

V. D. Callanan, of the New York office, has prepared a special article on the distribution of Georgia peaches, for publication in The Georgia Peach, a monthly magazine issued by the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, at Macon. The opening paragraph reads as follows:

"The marketing of the 1924 peach crop was one of the most difficult problems ever faced by fruit-growers and shippers in any producing section. Over 13,000 cars were shipped to markets east of the Mississippi River within a period of approximately ten weeks, in competition with shipments from a cantaloupe crop in California of over 17,000 cars and watermelon crops in Florida and Georgia of more than 6,300 cars and 14,500 cars, respectively. To further complicate the situation, approximately 75% of the peach movement occurred in July, shipments for that month being 10,229 cars, as compared with July totals of 5,893 cars in 1923, 3,681 cars in 1922, and 5,564 cars in 1921. Carlot shipments in June, on the other hand, were the lightest in four years, being only 1,704, as against 2,236 in 1923, 3,002 in 1922, and 3,559 cars in 1921."

The general system of distribution, in which our Macon field station had a guiding hand this season, is then briefly described. The following tabulation is of special interest and value, and in studying these figures it should be remembered that the 1921 shipments of Georgia peaches were 10,636 cars, the 1922 movement 7,368 cars, the 1923 shipments 8,701 cars. Up to August 16 this year the Georgia output was 13,378 cars:

UNLOADS OF GEORGIA PEACHES, 1921-24					PERCENTAGE OF GA. CROP UNLOADED			
City	1924#	1923	1922	1921	1924#	1923	1922	1921
New York	3,036	2,374	2,409	3,233	23.1	27.2	32.7	30.2
Philadelphia	792	579	509	810	5.9	6.5	6.9	7.6
Chicago	666	408	395	653	4.9	4.7	5.4	6.2
Boston	628	468	327	385	4.7	5.4	4.4	3.6
Cleveland	492	303	246	290	3.7	3.5	3.3	2.7
Cincinnati	474	302	308	437	3.5	3.5	4.2	4.1
Pittsburgh	466	340	348	471	3.5	3.9	4.7	4.4
Detroit	449	278	266	246	3.4	3.2	3.6	2.3
Baltimore	271	---	---	---	2.0	---	---	---
St. Louis	262	175	120	215	1.9	2.0	1.6	2.0
Washington	109	100	46	76	.8	1.2	.6	.7
Kansas City	75	54	35	44	.56	.62	.43	.41
Minneapolis	20	5	12	7	.15	.06	.16	.07
St. Paul	13	2	7	1	.10	.02	.09	.01
TOTAL:	7,513	5,363*	5,028*	6,873*	55.21	61.80*	63.13*	64.29*

*- Baltimore not included, -figures not available. # -to August 16, 1924

Mr. Callanan's article points out these notable changes:

"A study of the above figures shows fairly conclusively that this year's distribution plan reduced the proportionate tonnage in the larger markets and that the smaller ones, accordingly, were used to a greater extent than ever before. New York City, the principal consuming market for Georgia peaches, received only 23% of the total crop this season, or the smallest percentage of the crop ever received there. Yet there was little complaint that New York did not get its share of the fruit. The increased percentages shown in Chicago,

Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis, and St. Paul, on the other hand, were desirable and show that consumption of Georgia cabbages in the West was increased, as was the hope of all. The comparative figures for the four seasons are of interest in that they show New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati were relieved by shipments to cities in the territories surrounding those terminals instead of being the targets of glutting receipts. Complete statistics showing the number of cars shipped to individual markets are not available at the time of writing this review, but, when they are published in the regular summary to be issued shortly, it is reasonably safe to predict that a wide distribution will be shown also in the Ohio and Upper Mississippi Valleys. If the Elberta crop had matured at a more nearly normal time, it undoubtedly would have been possible to ship an even greater percentage of the movement to the West."

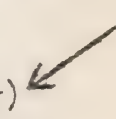
5a. ANOTHER NEW BULLETIN ON CABBAGE.

C. W. Hauck is the author of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1423, on the "Preparation of Cabbage for Market." This bulletin in its 14 pages discusses the market types of cabbage, and the methods of harvesting, grading, packing, loading into cars, or storing this product. Handling cabbage for kraut manufacture also is discussed, and a page is devoted to Government inspection service. The bulletin is well illustrated with 18 half-tone cuts.

6a. SPECIAL ARTICLES IN "THE OFFICIAL RECORD."

The Department's weekly paper, "The Official Record," recently carried front-page articles relating to the work of the F. & V. Division. These are valuable as a source of information to our own employees as well as to outsiders. The paper for July 16, 1924, had an article on the Market News Service and the issue for September 17 treats at length of the Inspection Service.

7a. NAMES DESIRED OF LEADING DEALERS.

(Answer promptly) 

With the opening of the main potato season, the Washington office receives frequent requests for the names of reliable potato dealers in principal markets. As the lists of dealers now on hand may be somewhat out-of-date, all city MARKET REPORTERS and all INSPECTORS in cities where there is no separate market news representative are requested to mail to Washington promptly a list of the leading dealers. Smaller markets should mention at least five or six names, and the larger cities 10 or 12, if possible. Please give the full name of the firm (and be sure it is spelled correctly), and the street address in each case. Mark these letters: "For attention of Mr. Froehlich." Your cooperation will be appreciated.

8a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 13:

- Page 166 - Special paragraph on apples in weekly review.
- 167 - Michigan Fruits Delayed, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
- 168 - Short Prune Crop in Idaho, - by G. E. Prince.
 - Texas Honey Ball Melons, - by W. D. Googe.
 - Idaho Apple Prices Open High, - by G. E. Prince.
- 176 - Imports of Agricultural Products Decline.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ADDITION TO ONION PAGE OF CODE (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 15).

As most onions in Indiana this season will be sold on the basis of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum or $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum, and it seemed advisable to get out code expressions for these terms without delay, the following was wired on September 13 to the circuits and to field offices interested in onion reports, to be effective September 15:

On "NA-NE" (Onions) page of code, add

NEN - U. S. No. 1, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum

NEQ - U. S. No. 1, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum

also, eliminate the phrase "For Texas Bermudas only," restricting symbols NEG, NEJ, NEM, and NET.

Onions meeting the regular U. S. No. 1 requirements of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch minimum should be described by NEG; if they are packed on the basis of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum, use NEN; if graded to a $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum, describe them by NEQ.

2b. ORDER OF ARRANGING QUOTATIONS BY CONTAINERS IN APPLE WIRES.

Reporters are requested to use in their apple wires to Washington the following order: Quotations on barrels should come first, followed by those on boxes, bushel baskets, bushel hampers, bulk per crt., bulk per barrel measure, and other containers. Stations will rarely report on all these containers in one wire, but the order given above should be followed for such bases as are used.

Market conditions, including the statement of supplies, can be given once before listing any quotations, if applicable to all containers; if not, they should be given following each container. The type of container, such as barrels, boxes, "KEHAB," etc., need be mentioned once only at the head of the quotations on that type of container. Example: "BARRELS CUSUS HANAN HOJAB NEW YORK KASOD KASOB VEXIG KARAC VEPIG BOXES CURUR HASAS HOHOH WASHINGTON KAGEJ JOMOQ VAQIG JOHOH TUSIG KAHAB JOMOQ TUSIX KEHAB CUVUV HAPAF HOLLAB NEW YORK KASOB TIJIV KASOB TISIV KAZOB TIVIX etc."

3b. QUOTING ARRIVALS IN AUCTION REPORTS.

In the article on the preparation of auction reports, Par. 7b in the Division Letter for August 1, 1924, occurred the following sentence: "On Monday afternoon, or after a holiday, arrivals should include all receipts since the last report, preceded by 'CAPUY' or other appropriate term." All markets are asked to follow this request. Further, those markets which do not have daily auctions should be careful to include in the arrivals in their auction wires all cars since the preceding auction report, preceded by the appropriate "CAP--" phrase.

4b. FEATURES OF ROCHESTER REPORTS.

On the first mimeographed reports issued at Rochester, A. E. Prugh has followed the plan which he used at other field stations, - that of inserting an outline map of the State at the top of the sheet, with the location of Rochester plainly marked. Alongside this map is a brief table, showing the carlot shipments of the various New York fruits and vegetables during the past season. In his first report, Mr. Prugh also reprinted in full the September crop estimates and New York crop comments as released by the State Agricultural Statistician, with similar items regarding competing sections.

5b. VOUCHERING OFFICIAL TELEGRAMS AT FIELD STATIONS.

It is understood that some of our field men have experienced difficulty in obtaining originals or copies of telegrams to support vouchers submitted to cover the local account with the telegraph office at a field station. The regulations governing the handling of official telegrams for this Department will be found in paragraphs 31, 32 and 33 of the Fiscal Regulations, which prescribe that "either the original messages or copies thereof must be filed in support of the vouchers, the correctness of which must be indicated by the certificate of the officer of the Department cognizant of the facts in the case."

For the information of field men and particularly to aid them in convincing local operators of the requirements in this respect, the following is quoted from the Western Union Tariff Book, 1924, No. 67, page 326:

*** "The monthly bill will be supported by the originals of sent paid messages and the carbon or tissue copies of received collect messages.

"Official messages sent to Washington, D. C., may be accepted collect.

"For payment of the monthly charge accounts, each office must look to the local Government agency or official to whom the bill is rendered. In some cases it will be necessary for local Government agencies to send the monthly bills and messages to Washington or some other disbursing office for payment, and in such case a check will be sent directly to the local office from the Washington headquarters or other distant disbursing office of the Government department in question. There is no objection to payment being made in this manner. The only requirement is that the payment shall be made promptly, and the local office should, in every case where payment is not received within a reasonable time, take the matter up with the local Government agency or representative to whom the bill was rendered. Any persistent difficulty in securing prompt payment of bills rendered locally should be reported."

The local telegraph operator will be assisted, if you will file your outgoing wires in duplicate, so that he will have a copy to retain when he attaches the original to the voucher.

Attention is also called to the fact that the tariff book prescribes that "an overnight message in plain language shall be charged for as a night message or as a night letter, according to which of these two classifications shall produce the lower charge for the message." Sometimes telegrams are billed at the rate of a night message, when a night letter would have been proper. It is suggested, therefore, that this provision be called to the attention of the local operator in connection with incoming night wires from railroads and others, as well as outgoing wires.

The tariff regulations also provide that "Government day messages shall have priority in transmission and delivery over all other messages." All Government messages are subject to the prevailing count of chargeable words, and the rate is 40% of the commercial rate. It is suggested that, when practicable, it would be advisable for our men to familiarize themselves with that section of the tariff regulations relating to United States Government messages. Local operators undoubtedly will allow you to look over their copies.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF. ** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. ** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes Pears* Peaches Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Aug. 25 Sept. 22	Oct. 31 Sept. 6* Sept. 20 Oct. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH. ** Room 1, Commercial Blk.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears Potatoes Grapes Peaches Onions	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 22 Sept. 22 Sept. 20	Oct. 18 Sept. 22 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Sept. 30 Oct. 18
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Peaches Pears Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22	Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. ** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30

The following stations probably will open on date indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following station closes on date indicated:

ROCKY FORD, COLO. Maxwell Block	821	R. L. Sutton	Cantaloupe	Aug. 20	<u>Closed</u> Sept. 20
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** State Department cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ON CERTIFICATES.

Some railroad claim agents have made inquiries as to whether the time shown on our certificates is standard or "daylight saving" time. Since there is a possibility of confusion in this connection, the letters "D.S." should be placed after the A.M. or P.M. by all offices which are running under "daylight saving" time. This will make the matter clear, should certificates ever come into court as evidence.

2c. ADDITIONAL AUGUST INSPECTIONS IN NEW YORK.

The following report of New York inspections for the United States Lines and the Munson Line was received too late for inclusion with the August report in last week's Division Letter:

	<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Fruits</u>	<u>Rejections</u>
United States Lines.....	247,436 lbs.	140,596 lbs.	5,321 lbs.
Munson Line.....	57,879 lbs.	20,501 lbs.	582 lbs.

At the bottom of page 421 in the last D. L. write a reference to this effect: "See supplementary report on page 431 of D. L. for September 19."

3c. IMPORTANT CORRECTIONS IN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION RECORD.

Please refer to page 409 in the Division Letter for September 5, and make the following changes in your copy of the table showing shipping-point inspections by States during the fiscal year ended June, 1924: Mr. Bier advises that Florida's total should be increased by 100, making it 8,370 instead of 8,270. The total of 1,035 for Oregon covered potatoes only. There were 3,407 additional inspections made in cooperation with the State Board of Horticulture and in eastern Oregon under the Idaho cooperative agreement. This will make Oregon's correct total 4,442 instead of 1,035. The grand total Federal-State inspections for the fiscal year 1924 is thereby increased to 129,049 instead of 125,542. In the third line below the table, change 127,452 to read 130,959. Please make these corrections immediately.

The next two items are taken from reports issued by State Agricultural Statisticians in New York and Washington.

4c. PROSPECTS FOR NEW YORK APPLES.

The decline from previous months has continued and the New York total apple crop is now forecast at 24,695,000 bushels, compared with 24,000,000 bushels last year, and the commercial crop at 3,869,000 bbls. compared with 3,900,000 last year. Because of frequent rains, scab and aphid have been unusually severe and the proportion of fruit that is expected to be Grade A is unusually low. The summer, fall and early winter varieties are rather poor. Greenings are somewhat better than last year, Northern Spys are poorer and Baldwins, the main winter variety in the commercial sections, are apparently less than half as good. Commercial growers estimate that the total production this season would be distributed between varieties about as follows: Summer varieties, 15%; fall and early winter, 36%; winter varieties, 49%. This is a larger proportion of early varieties and a smaller proportion of winter varieties than is usually produced. In parts of the State outside the principal commercial sections, the crop is generally fair. The declines from previous forecasts have been general in the commercial States. The commercial crop now promises 1,200,000 bbls. less than in August and is the lowest since 1921.

5c. THE WASHINGTON APPLE OUTLOOK.

The Washington commercial apple crop averaged but 55% of normal on September 1 and the forecast is now 18,330,000 bushels. This is a decrease of almost 1,000,000 bushels from the August forecast of 19,332,000 bushels. Worm damage has been severe in many orchards this season, with the result that the commercial crop is less than was anticipated. Further cause for a reduction in the estimate is the fact that some apples are not sizing as well as usual. The total apple crop of the State on September 1 was placed at 21,072,000 bushels, against 22,221,000 bushels, the August 1 forecast.

The next four items are from SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTORS' LETTER No. 6, issued by F. E. Bailey on September 12 from Spokane office:

6c. RED ONIONS IN WALLA WALLA CROP.

Wendell P. Brown, District Horticultural Inspector at Walla Walla, has been making a study of the problem of red onions appearing in the yellow globe crop grown in the Walla Walla Valley. Mr. Brown states that through his own observation, and according to statements made by various growers, when seed is selected from none but well-shaped yellow globes, a small percentage of red onions will appear in the crop the following season. It is Mr. Brown's opinion that the yellow globe onions grown in the Walla Walla Valley probably originated from a cross between a white and a red onion, and that the appearance of the red onions, together with an occasional white onion in the crops, is a reversion to the original types.

The white onions do not appear in sufficient quantity to become a factor in the grading of the crop, but it is not uncommon to find three to five per cent of red onions in a crop and these become a serious factor in putting up onions to meet Number 1 grade.

Mr. Samson states that the trade is not willing to make an allowance for the appearance of red onions for the reason that they appear naturally in the crop, and that, therefore, no additional tolerance can be allowed for the red stock appearing in the yellow globe shipments. He is of the opinion that Walla Walla growers and packers will need to sort out most of the red stock at the time of packing, in order that Walla Walla onions may meet the U. S. No. 1 grade.

7c. BRIEF NOTES FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

In the Umpqua Valley 76 cars of prunes were inspected this season; in Clark County, Washington, 225 cars, and in the Willamette Valley 165 cars.

Inspector Ralph Marble, of Sumner, inspected 21½ cars of red raspberries during the past season. Mr. Marble looked at the berries in each of the 720 or 630 crates contained in the various cars, making an estimated total of 146,790 crates, which he opened and inspected. As each crate contains approximately 20 pounds of berries, the total amounts to about 1,467 tons.

The Walla Walla office issued 231 certificates on onions during the past season. Most of these were on the summer onions, of which the Walla Walla district makes a speciality. This office also issued 13 fresh prune certificates.

W. J. Kocken, County Fruit Inspector, at Hood River, Oregon, advises that the following firms have signed contracts with his office for shipping-point inspection during the season now starting: Apple Growers' Association; Duck-wall Brothers; Hood River Produce Exchange; Kelly Brothers, and Paxton and Rivers

8c. YAKIMA COUNTY APPLE TREE CENSUS.

The following table has been compiled from data furnished by W. L. Close District Horticultural Inspector at Yakima. Three columns at the left show the results of the 1924 apple tree census for Yakima County, Washington, when about one-half completed. The three columns at the right show the complete tree census for 1918. Trees 1 to 3 years of age are classified as non-bearing.

A comparison of the non-bearing trees for 1924 with those for 1918 gives an interesting indication of which varieties are increasing in commercial importance. Figures in the left-hand columns must be doubled in order to be roughly comparable to those at the right:

Variety	1924			1918		
	One-half Completed			Complete		
	Bearing Trees	Non- Bearing	Total	Bearing Trees	Non- Bearing	Total
Aiken Red	200	--	200	--	--	--
Arkansas Black	13294	872	14166	29296	2118	32044
Baldwin	215	--	215	2655	--	2665
Ben Davis	1975	--	1975	13536	--	13536
Black Ben	729	--	729	--	--	--
Black Twig	3366	40	3406	9203	18	9221
Delicious	71877	52284	126161	96365	10480	106845
Duchess	66	--	66	--	--	--
Gano	971	--	971	--	--	--
Gano & Black Ben	--	--	--	8618	--	8618
Golden Delicious	51	80	131	--	--	--
Gravenstein	429	--	429	--	--	--
Grimes Golden	3765	600	4365	13012	25	13037
Jonathan	192786	8865	201651	486525	3792	490317
King David	2212	--	2212	--	--	--
Yellow Newtown	30432	118	30550	86323	192	86515
Ranier	654	1335	1989	--	--	--
Rome Beauty	95576	26691	122267	203979	15353	219332
Spitzenberg	25866	114	25980	137495	403	137898
Stayman Winesap	8303	931	9234	22324	1153	23477
Wagner	12150	--	12150	62615	241	62856
Winesaps	309497	22860	332357	759744	16756	776500
W. W. Pearmain	1369	128	1497	4505	356	4861
Winter Banana	7469	5123	12592	9153	546	9699
Transparent	589	40	629	--	--	--
Misc. apples	7140	279	7419	51159	1601	52760

9c. DROUTH EFFECT ON PRUNES WEST OF CASCADES.

Drouth was the principal factor in reducing the grade of fresh Italian prune shipments from points in western Washington and Oregon this summer. It caused four practically distinct types of injury:

First, - gum spot, beneath which was found a crescent scar $1/4$ to $3/8$ inch long. This type of injury was most common.

Second, - shriveling of the prune $1/4$ to $1/3$ of its length from the stem end, with browning and blackening of the underlying flesh as a result of oxidation. According to Dr. Zeller, of the Oregon Experiment Station, this is an excellent demonstration of the manner in which the leaves draw water from

(Continued over)

the fruit in case of shortage, removing it from the tissue near the stem end first. This type of injury, though not so common as the gum spot, was the most serious from the standpoint of injury to the individual fruit, prunes so affected being practically worthless as fresh fruit.

Third,- shirveling on the cheek of the prune, with brown lines of injured tissue extending through the flesh beneath. This was a less serious form of injury than the stem-end shriveling.

Fourth,- browning of the cells lining the pit cavity. This type of injury carried no exterior manifestation and apparently did not injure the eating quality of the fresh fruit, but it did make buyers fearful of the carrying quality of crops so affected.

As with other fruits in other regions, soil types, topography, and orchard practices were important factors in drouth injury. Some orchards would show mostly one type of injury, some another, and many were practically free from any form of injury.

It is interesting to note that men associated with the prune drying industry were not so concerned over the various forms of drouth injury as were those interested in fresh prune shipments. One of the former remarked that one good rain before the start of picking for drying would flush the injured tissue so that practically none of it would be noted in the dried product.

10c. REPORTING REINSPECTIONS ON MONTHLY REPORTS.

Each office is requested to read again the instructions relative to reporting reinspections on Monthly Reports, which have been published in Division Letters for February 23, April 5, and July 12, 1923. In order that we may have a complete record at the end of the fiscal year, a statement like the following should be attached to the Monthly Report sheets in every office where reinspections have been made:

-REPORT OF REINSPECTIONS-						(Office)-----
<u>Date</u>	<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Car No.</u>	<u>Cert. No.</u>	<u>Originating State</u>	<u>Sustained</u>	<u>Reversed</u>
8/1/23	Peaches	FGEX 41435	A 57170	No. Carolina		x

The first sheet of the report should not show a statement like the following: "3 reinspections - no fee," without an attached sheet showing the above information concerning these three cars. Every office is requested to give this matter more careful attention in submitting Monthly Reports.

11c. SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE INSPECTION SERVICE.

Have you examined carefully your office copy of the 1923 Yearbook? The first pages of this important book are devoted to the annual report of the Secretary. The report is profusely illustrated with telling graphs, charts, and half-tone cuts. Page 28 discusses briefly the recent expansion in the market news work and the radio reports of the Bureau. Pages 29 to 31 are given over to the inspection work, particularly the shipping-point inspection service. A map of the United States shows the relative importance of this service in the several States, and another chart shows the annual volume of inspections in terminal markets since 1918. The standardization work on fruits and vegetables also is mentioned. The following passages will be of special interest to all Inspectors:-

Although active work has been possible in less than half the States, certificates were issued on 72,465 carloads of produce at shipping points and on 28,169 cars in terminal markets. This means that every one of these shippers held prima facie evidence of having made a good delivery if he based his sale on the Federal certificate. It means also that every buyer who demanded "Government certificate attached to bill of lading" bought with assurance that a competent and impartial inspection had determined the variety and grade of the fruits or vegetables offered him.

The economic results of this innovation have been spectacular in the swiftness of their development. They promise to be well-nigh revolutionary in their ultimate effect upon fruit and vegetable marketing.

First, the true meaning of standardization has been brought home to the grower as never before.

Second, the growers' organizations have improved the quality of their offerings and have found a new and acceptable basis for pooling.

Third, potato growers especially have learned what sort of stock should not be shipped at all except in years of extremely high prices.

Fourth, the shipper has a new basis upon which to offer his product and has no fear that the prospective buyer will discount his statements.

Fifth, the buyer can order in safety without seeing the goods.

Sixth, the certificate acts as a general insurance policy in case of loss or damage in transit.

The trade quickly realized that this service made possible a new system of car-lot marketing. Auction companies have been formed in both eastern and western cities which sell only cars in transit and on which certificates have been issued. The success of this system has been marked from the start. On the first 500 cars of cantaloupes thus sold the commissions were only one-third as high as those generally prevailing at the time. The final destination of the car was determined during its first day on the road, and it moved without indirection or delay to the place of consumption. Meantime the shipper had his money, transmitted by telegraph, within 48 hours after loading his car. Thus has the road between producer and consumer been shortened and straightened, and a clear saving of 10 per cent of the f.o.b. price has been effected by the shipper.

Prior to last year our inspection service in terminal markets had never earned in fees more than five-sevenths of the appropriation made by Congress for this work. Last year, without curtailing the city service and without a dollar of increase for this item, we more than trebled the number of cars inspected and have returned to the Treasury six-sevenths of the amount appropriated. When considered in connection with the profound reforms and economies to which the work has given rise, this is one of the most marked accomplishments of the year in our entire field of economic service.

The benefits from well-defined and generally-accepted standards for farm products are no longer seriously questioned. With premiums being paid for products of uniform grade, coupled with high costs of transporting and handling nonstandardized products, farmers have come to realize the value of this work. Standardization of fruits and vegetables received fresh impetus from the inauguration of the shipping point inspection, as uniform standards are fundamentally necessary to the successful operation of an inspection service. At the present time Federal standards are being used for a large number of the most important fruits and vegetables, and many of these standards have been made mandatory under State laws.

F.G.ROBB, Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Robert Bier has returned from his brief vacation, and on Saturday expects to start for Florida, where he will again serve as Federal Supervisor in charge of the shipping-point inspection work. Mr. Bier estimates that from 150 to 200 men will be required to handle the various Florida deals this season. For a short while he will have his headquarters with the State Marketing Bureau, 204 St. James Building, Jacksonville, but later Mr. Bier probably will move his office to Orlando or some other central point.

B. E. Shaffer, recently on the Chicago inspection staff, has been transferred to Mr. Sanson's project for the present, and will make a study of the application of grape grades in Michigan. He likely will have his headquarters in the Benton Harbor office, Room 3, Commercial Block.

A. E. Prugh has rented Rooms 441 and 443 in the Triangle Building, Rochester, as market news headquarters. This building is at 20 East Ave.

Recent advice from C. H. Behrke is to the effect that State Inspector, H. S. Duncan, has moved his office from 609 Duff-Powers Building, Rochester, to Room 409, Triangle Building, adjoining our market news office. Mr. Behrke can be reached at the latter address, w/c H. S. Duncan. A school for the training of apple inspectors for western New York is being started atodus or Lyons this week.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., who has been on leave at Syracuse, N.Y., came to Washington yesterday, and is again on duty in Mr. Sanson's project.

Word from Wm. E. Lewis indicates that he will not go farther west on his present trip. He has returned from Rochester to Trenton, N.J., and will soon be back at his desk in Washington.

It has been decided to send R. H. Lamb from Grand Junction, Colo., to Chicago, where he will be in charge of the market news work during this winter, while W. H. Hall is at Orlando, Fla., where ^{will} issue market reports on citrus fruit, as was done by Mr. Evers last season. Mr. Lamb will spend a day or two in the San Luis Valley, arranging for potato f.o.b. reports for the Denver office, and then will proceed to Denver, probably reaching Chicago by October 1. G. A. DeHaven, who has been substituting in Chicago, will return to shipping point inspection work in Florida within a few weeks.

After closing the Rocky Ford field station this Saturday, R. L. Sutton will proceed to Grand Junction, and take over the work formerly handled by Mr. Lamb.

Andrew Walp, Veterans' Bureau trainee, who was formerly in the New York inspection office and later helped with shipping-point work in New Jersey, is now assisting with similar work in the State of Delaware, under Mr. Zimmerman's direction.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. H. Scruggs, who has been working up his field summaries in the Washington office the last few weeks, leaves today for Martinsburg, W. Va., where he will issue market reports on apples.

W. V. Stephens, who supervised shipping-point inspections in New Jersey, has now returned to his headquarters in New York City. As long as the Jersey work continues, Mr. Stephens will make occasional trips to that State, in order to see that the work is moving along satisfactorily.

After spending Thursday in the Washington office, P. D. Rupert has gone on annual leave at Geneva, N.Y., until about the 6th of October. Mr. Rupert had been supervising apple and peach inspections in western Maryland.

F. E. Bailey, in the Washington-Oregon Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 6, gives considerable space to a good description of the apple market reports issued at Spokane and to the general methods of market reporting work followed by this Division. He also gives a complete list of the 30 products for which Federal grades are now available, with the date of issue or the date of revision for each of the grades.

L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector, will visit various shipping points in the State of Montana next week, as this work is under his general direction along with the inspections in Idaho.

R. R. Pailthorp returned to his desk in the Washington office this week. Mr. Pailthorp has been in the West the last six weeks, arranging for a continuation of the reports on rejections of apple shipments, so as to make further studies of the causes and extent of rejections.

The American Fruit Grower magazine for September contains an article by Mr. Sherman on "Government Inspection and the Fruit Industry." One of the statements made in the course of the article is the following: "The problems of successful inspection are twofold: First, specific and workable grades; and second, personnel, or the finding of the right men to apply the grades."

The loop of the Central Circuit leased wire to the market news office at Waupaca, Wisc., was reinstated the middle of this week. W. H. Mosier has resumed potato market reports at Waupaca for the season.

R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis office, is on leave from September 15 to 25, and R. M. Peterson is handling for the present both the market reporting work and inspections in Minneapolis.

In the interest of shipment reports, F. M. Patton is visiting transportation officials in Richmond and Roanoke, Va.; Cincinnati; Louisville; St. Louis; Springfield, Mo.; Peoria, Ill.; Indianapolis, Ind., and possibly Cleveland. He left Washington a few days ago.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Mrs. Mildred S. Colby, who had been on three months' furlough at Colfax, Calif., returns next week to the Minneapolis office, where she was formerly employed.

A. H. Polster's residence address in Cincinnati is the Palace Hotel, Sixth and Vine Streets; phone Canal 150.

The present address of R. C. Lindstrom, in Philadelphia, is 5154 Walnut Street, but he will move on October 1 to 6217 Catherine Street, Philadelphia.

J. W. Raplee advises that the telephone number at his residence, 64 Brinton Street, Buffalo, is Crescent 2247-J.

K. R. Nutting, one of the cooperative inspectors in California, has completed his work in the Sebastopol district, and should now be addressed at Santa Rose, Calif., where he is in charge of inspection work.

The residence address and phone number of B. S. Jones, Inspector in St. Louis, are: - 4540 Chouteau Avenue; phone Grand 1967-J.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 39

September 26, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. FANCY GEORGIA APPLES BECOMING PROMINENT.

In a letter of September 19, T. C. Curry tells about the high-grade Georgia apples being received in Atlanta:-

"Thought you might be interested in knowing that Georgia is coming to the front gradually in the growing and selling of apples. In the past week, we have had two straight cars of boxed apples from the Cornelia Section. One contained Fancy and 'C' grade Grimes Golden and the other Fancy and 'C' grade Winter Bananas.

"The Grimes were mostly of medium size, excellent color, well graded and packed, and sold readily at \$2.50 on the Fancy and around \$2.25 on the 'C' grade. The Winter Bananas were equal to any shipped from the Northwest, being well colored, properly graded and packed. I was surprised to see them packed in oiled wraps.

"The grading and packing on these two cars compared favorably with stock from the Northwest. Of course, there are still large quantities of apples shipped here in bulk. Some of these are windfalls, others are 'hand-picked, orchard-run, culls out.' Most of the bulk stock is disposed of through the peddler trade. Lately we have had several trucks in from South Georgia, loaded with sweet potatoes; these trucks returned loaded with bulk apples. So you can see there is a very good outlet for that class of stock. Apple supplies have been fairly liberal here lately, but the demand has been good and prices have held up well."

2a. SEPTEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

In addition to the detailed crop reports and usual tables of farm prices, etc., attention is called to the following items in the September Supplement to "Crops and Markets:"

Page 289 - Time of Issuance and Scope of October Crop Reports.

293 - Condition of potato and sweet potato crops. (foot of page)

294 - Condition of fruit crops. (foot of page)

- Onion situation in Indiana. (filler)

296 - Orange and Grapefruit production in Florida for shipment this season.

- Relative importance of Idaho apples this year. (filler)

297 - Celery situation in Wayne County, New York. (filler)

300 - Farm Labor Supply and Demand during past year.

301 - Prices of Articles Bought by Farmers in recent months.

- Index Numbers of Farm Prices, by months and years.

312 - Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables during July, by States.

316 - Cabbage situation in New York State. (filler)

317 - What is the Highest Potato Yield?

318 - Chinese Rice Crop.

319 - The Price Situation.

313 - Shipments of Citrus Fruits during July, by States.

(Page 439)

3a. INTERESTING NEWS FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Read this letter of September 20 from H. A. Harris, Los Angeles:

"This market has received 25 cars of peaches from Utah and three cars from Idaho within the past three weeks, as a result of the drought that has prevailed in California this season. Supplies usually come from the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys, with a small quantity of homegrowns.

"These Utah peaches were Elbertas of generally good quality and color and ranged in size from medium to small. They were mostly in bushel baskets, although some were in lug boxes, and sold in a jobbing way from $4\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to $5\frac{1}{2}\phi$ per pound. They met with good demand, since California Elbertas, with the exception of a few homegrowns from around Ontario, had cleaned up before the Utah peaches arrived.

"Last month this market received several cars of cabbage from Colorado. Supplies from nearby sections and northern California were inadequate to meet the demand. Colorado lettuce probably would have been brought in also had freight rates not been prohibitive. Jobbing sales on Watsonville lettuce reached \$6.00 per crate shortly after the first of September, the highest ever known on this market. Very little local lettuce has arrived for the past 60 days.

"Another interesting feature was the receipt of $1\frac{1}{2}$ cars of grapes from Idaho. They were Concords, however, a variety that is produced in a very small way in only two districts in Los Angeles County. They jobbed readily at 30-35¢ per 5-lb. Climax basket.

"Perhaps it is not quite accurate to attribute the shortage of local crops entirely to weather conditions. More or less successful enforcement of the recent alien laws has reduced the amount of land under cultivation by Orientals far more than any increases due to a slight gain in the number of white growers. Urban expansion and subdivisions in Los Angeles County alone are estimated to have occupied at least 30,000 acres that had been devoted to field crops prior to 1921. The water shortage is proving less acute than was thought several weeks ago, although conditions are spotted and yet far from satisfactory. Limitations on the use of electric power are being removed with the hopes that early fall rains will relieve the situation.

"The San Fernando Valley growers did not expect to be able to plant a single acre of lettuce 30 days ago. The city allotted them additional water to grow 600 acres, and late reports indicate that twice that acreage was planted. The city officials now think they will be able to give them enough water to mature all lettuce already planted.

"The Imperial Valley has been experiencing a water shortage for the past 30 days or more. I have been informed that the entire flow of the Colorado River has been diverted into the irrigation canal since early in August. The average flow of the river at the intake of the Imperial Valley canal has been ~~some~~ somewhere around 2,000 feet during the past few weeks. The requirements of the Imperial Valley at this season of the year are estimated to be between 6,000 and 7,000 feet. There are said to be 360,000 acres on the American side and 180,000 acres on the Mexican side, but under the agreement made before the construction of the canal the Mexican lands are entitled to 50% of the water diverted from the river. As a matter of comparison the flow of the Colorado at flood time ranges at Yuma from 300,000 to 500,000 feet, if my memory is correct. This shortage of water is unexpected and is caused by lack of summer rains in Colorado and Utah and lightness of the July and August precipitation in Arizona. The planting of lettuce is being delayed and it is conceded that there will be no lettuce for shipment before the first of the year."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. DIFFERENTIATE IN PEANUT WIRES BETWEEN OLD AND NEW STOCK.

New crop Spanish peanuts are now ready for shipment from the southeastern States. Quotations on futures are being sent out on Virginia Spanish and Southeastern Runner peanuts, and it will not be long before brokers will be quoting for future shipment Southeastern Spanish and Virginia type peanuts. An appreciable difference in price has been noted at times between old and new goods, the new peanuts being the cheaper. Therefore, when securing peanut prices for the next few weeks, at least, please inquire whether the figures given represent old or new goods. If for future shipment, the date of shipment may be important. For example, southeastern shellers recently quoted stock for immediate shipment 1¢ per pound higher than for shipment three or four weeks later. Following this request, which is especially important where f.o.b. prices are concerned, will aid us in keeping erroneous prices out of the peanut bulletin.

2b. RECORD OF "SERVICES" FOR AUGUST.

Some months ago, upon the recommendation of market station men, publication of the monthly record of "services" was discontinued. It was claimed this would not result in more errors, but the number of necessary "services" is increasing. Part of this increase undoubtedly is due to the addition of auction reports, but this does not explain all of the increase. Accordingly, publication of the table will be resumed, at least temporarily. The record of "services" for August follows:

RECORD OF "SERVICES" OVER LEASED WIRE DURING AUGUST, 1924.

Name of Market Serviced	Total number of services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Tele-graphic Errors	Un-classified Services to Mkts.	Un-necessary Services by Wash.	Voluntary corrections (not included in table of Services)
Atlanta	4	3			1		
Baltimore	10	5		3	2		1
Boston	25	13	5	1	5	1	3
Chicago	51	18	9	11	13		15
Cincinnati	13	6	3	1	3		
Fort Worth	3	2			1		
Kansas City	12	4		7		1	4
Minneapolis*	28	13	1	5	9		1
New York	51	14	14	10	13		10
Omaha	7	5	1	1			
Philadelphia	24	11	4	2	7		10
Pittsburgh	36	22		8	5	1	1
St. Louis	22	8	2	7	5		1
Washington	2	1			1		5
TOTAL	288	125	39	56	65	3	51

*Including St. Paul.

3b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 20:

- Page 181 - Western Early Potato Deal Closing, - by G. D. Clark.
 182 - Special paragraphs on sweet potatoes in weekly review.
 183 - Active Season in Colorado, - by John D. Snow.
 - Muckland carrot acreage in western New York. (filler)
 184 - Northwestern Apples Begin Early, - by G. E. Prince.
 - Poor Returns for California Grapes. (based on review by
 C. E. Schultz)
 192 - Good Foreign Demand for American Prunes.

4b. MARKET REPORTS POPULAR IN GEORGIA:

Writing under date of September 11, Mr. Curry, of the Atlanta office, submitted the following interesting information:

"Market news work here is progressing nicely. At present we have on the regular mailing list 324 active names, and on sweet potatoes 180 active names.

"At the request of jobbers and wholesalers, we are now delivering the regular report by messenger daily to 26 firms in this city. The mail service seems to be slow, since reports posted at 11 A. M. usually are not delivered until 8 A. M. the following day. Dealers find the reports of much more value, if received the same day issued. We have received quite a few complimentary remarks about the service. One sweet potato shipper advised us that our reports last year enabled him to make approximately \$3,500 more on his crop than was expected, by being posted on the various markets.

"The A., B. & A. Railroad has about completed a building in its yards to accommodate produce dealers. Already the available space has all been taken at a nominal rent, and the tenants, some of whom are brokers, advise me that I can see them there next Monday morning. These dealers will cater largely to the peddler trade, and the sales cannot be overlooked since a large proportion of the commodities handled will be on Georgia products which, of course, are very important to the farmers of this State.

"The principal products to be handled there will be apples, sweet potatoes, pears, oranges, grapefruit and watermelons. The two produce districts are about a mile apart."

5b. SUMMARY OF BOXED APPLE DEAL:

A most comprehensive summary of the 1923-24 Northwestern Boxed Apple Deal, comprising 35 pages, has just been issued. The authors are G. E. Prince and Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office. An especially valuable feature of this report is the comparison made with statistics for previous seasons. Quite a number of pages are devoted to the cold storage situation and to statistics on exports.

6b. REVIEW OF SOUTHERN POTATO MARKET IN NEW YORK CITY:

V. D. Callanan and S. W. Russell are the authors of a two-page review of the 1924 southern potato season in New York City, issued on September 19. Carlot receipts during the last three years are shown by States of origin. In a second table, the percentage of each State's shipments unloaded in New York is given. Receipts of new potatoes are then shown by States and by months in comparison with old stock. The price table gives separate columns for Florida stock, South Carolina stock, North Carolina stock and Virginia stock. For each day of the season, the carlot receipts are contrasted with the price.

7b. PARTS OF WEEKLY REVIEW USED AT FIELD STATION.

In connection with his regular market reports at Rochester, A. E. Prugh has begun to use those parts of the Tuesday review which relate to the products shipped from his territory. He reprints these in full, together with the opening paragraph of the review. Being fairly close to Washington, the Rochester office receives the Tuesday review by mail in time to reprint it on Thursday. A few portions of the weekly summary of carlot shipments also are used in full by Mr. Prugh, - those pertaining to western New York products. Rochester newspapers are giving considerable space to the market reports.

8b. WESTERN NEW YORK ONIONS, BEANS AND LETTUCE.

Clippings from recent issues of the Rochester "Herald" and "Evening Journal" have been received through Mr. Prugh. These items cover rather completely the western New York situation as to onions, beans and lettuce.

A large part of the Orange County onion crop has already been shipped, chiefly to New York City. The onions in the western portion of the State, which is the main onion district, are at least two weeks later than usual, because of unfavorable weather in the spring which delayed seeding. Contrary to original expectations, the principal muckland acreage has actually been increased this year. Opinions differ widely as to the probable average yield and quality of the crop, but general prospects are for a good crop of late onions. Some of the plantings on more-recently reclaimed land are said to be doing especially well. Remembering the bad finish of last season, some growers pulled their early onions almost too soon in an effort to get on the market before the bulk of the crop is ready; these early sales were made mostly at \$1 per bushel. The acreage devoted to set onions was increased, and this crop, which matures sooner than the seed onions, was sold generally at 2¢ per pound, as compared with about 1¢ a pound at present for the crop grown from seed. Most growers are in the mood to sell early, rather than hold their onions and again run the risk of a falling market. Prices are not expected to average as high as those of last autumn, and dealers are not likely to make heavy purchases for speculation.

Beans have been so delayed that they are running very close to the frost line in western New York. The wet spring and cool summer were not favorable to the crop, and early prospects have been very materially reduced. This shrinkage in western New York is in common with conditions in the other important bean States, - Michigan and California. It is said that at least two more weeks of good weather will be required to mature the New York crop. Harvesting has barely been started in some districts, whereas usually it is pretty well completed by this time. Much interest is manifested in what the probable market prices will be, especially with the greatly reduced crop in all leading States. The carry-over from last season also is much lighter than usual in western New York. Of the 1923 crop of 1,690,000 bushels, it is reported around Rochester that only about 30 carloads remain on hand.

Liberal quantities of up-State lettuce, much of it poor to ordinary in quality, were reported on the New York City market. Price trends were downward. Big Boston from western New York sold at \$1 - \$2.25 per crate the close of last week, and shipments from Oswego County brought 75¢ - \$2.00. Orange County lettuce was as low as 50¢ - \$1.00. Muckland carrots from western New York received scant attention. Dealers had difficulty in realizing more than \$1.00 per sack of 100 pounds. Acme tomatoes from Albany County brought mostly \$2.25 per bushel basket in New York City, while other varieties sold at \$1.50.

9b. CHANGE OF DAYS FOR SWEET POTATO REPORTS.

Heretofore, the semi-weekly reports on sweet potatoes have been issued on Tuesday and Friday. Effective this week, the reports for the early part of the week were changed from Tuesday to Monday, as most markets are able to obtain more complete price information on Mondays.

10b. COMENDATION OF WORK FOR DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS DIVISION.

L. M. Davis, of the Division of Dairy and Poultry Products, recently sent us the following memorandum:

"The new storage reports, which were inaugurated by the Bureau early in the spring, are being issued right along now and have been in operation for a sufficient length of time for us to form some opinion as to the value which the trade places upon them. Several of the local representatives of your Division are cooperating in furnishing us with reports covering the local storages, and I am sure if these offices could see the favorable comments which the trade has made as to this new work and could also see how the figures are used each week in studying current trends, they would realize that the reports are well worth while. We appreciate your cooperation very much."

11b. PUBLICITY FOR MICHIGAN GRAPE SUMMARY.

The "News-Palladium", published daily at Benton Harbor, Mich., carried in a recent issue a two-column review of the 1923 Michigan Grape Summary, distributed by R. H. Shoemaker. Important passages of the summary are quoted in this article and reference is made to the Federal-State market news work conducted in Michigan. Mr. Shoemaker advises that the "News-Palladium" is circulated by special delivery to most of the grape growers in Berrien and Van Buren counties.

E. W. STILLWELL.

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes Pears " Peaches* Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Sept. 16 Aug. 25 Sept. 22	Oct. 31 Sept. 6 Sept. 30 Sept. 22* Oct. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH. ** Room 1, Commercial Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears* Potatoes Onions Grapes Peaches	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 22 Sept. 23	Oct. 18 Sept. 22* Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 11
PRESQUE ISLE, I.E. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 8 Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 11 Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 9, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following stations probably will open on date indicated:

ORLANDO, FLA.	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Frt	Oct. 20	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 20 Oct. 20 Oct. 20	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31

** State Department cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

G. A. DeHaven-in Chicago office. R. H. Lamb - en route to Chicago.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. BITTER PIT IN OREGON APPLES.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, sent the following information in a letter of September 15:-

"Bitter Pit is very prevalent in the apples in western Oregon this year. The season has been dry, and I presume the blemish will show up wherever the crop was dependent upon rainfall or where the irrigation water was deficient. I have not seen any of the irrigated apples yet, to know if it shows in them.

"I had two cars of Willamette Valley apples the other day that ran about 20% blemished by Bitter Pit. The owner was astonished when I showed it to him. He had been scolding his help for bruising the fruit and would hardly believe me, when I told him it was a condition of the fruit itself."

2c. MATURITY OF IDAHO PRUNES.

Having observed on the market some northwestern prunes which showed a reddish color instead of the normal dark color of a mature prune and which, although soft, were decidedly unpalatable, Mr. Samson inquired of L. G. Schultz the basis on which maturity is judged at shipping points. Mr. Schultz' reply of September 19, from Boise, Idaho, is as follows:-

"With regard to the reddish color, will say that we have considered this a type of sunburn and, when noticeable at all, such fruit is barred from No. 1 grade.

"Maturity this season was determined by cutting the prunes and observing the color of the flesh. They were not considered sufficiently mature for shipment until the flesh showed a color turning from green to light golden or brown. We found that such prunes were edible and would ripen properly. I do not believe the prunes this year developed the usual sugar content, and this probably was especially true in the prune showing the red color, due to sunburn.

"The prune season, as a whole, has been very unsatisfactory and inspectors have had a very difficult time in certifying to shipments. Our greatest trouble was with shriveling at the stem end. We believe this condition due to the extremely hot, dry summer, following an unfavorable spring, when the trees were subjected to heavy frosts. Last year, you will remember, the trees bore an extremely heavy crop, which factor, also, no doubt weakened them this year to some extent.

"Mr. Fisher, of Wenatchee, believes that the shriveling is due to excessive transpiration during the hot weather, when the trees were unable to supply sufficient moisture from the roots and were compelled to draw upon the prune, causing the break-down at the stem end.

"The shriveling of the prunes could be noticed in many orchards while the fruit was still on the tree and was not due to over-ripeness, for, in many cases, upon cutting them they were still green and very sour.

"Our inspectors were instructed to throw out all shriveled prunes. However, I had no doubt but that they would show shrivel in the receiving markets, as several boxes were placed in storage for tests. In many cases, it was found that, in 48 hours, a decided shrivel had developed; so it was easy to see what would occur in a week's time."

3c. FLORIDA CITRUS CIRCULAR:

Copies of the tentative Florida citrus circular for shipping-point inspectors are being distributed with this Division Letter. These should be studied carefully by all inspectors for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with various factors of quality and condition which will come up in connection with receiving-point inspections and reinspections during the coming season. This shipping-point inspection work will be based on the recommended grades for Florida citrus which should be studied carefully in connection with this circular. It is planned to furnish receiving-point inspectors with specific instructions on Florida grades before heavy shipments begin and reinspections are requested. Full details will be given in the Division Letter within the next few weeks.

4c. REPORTING RAISING AND RAISINED GRAPES:

There has been a difference of opinion among shippers and inspectors for some time regarding the possibility of "raising" of grapes in transit. Experiments are under way in California to determine the possibility of this change under refrigerator-car temperatures. Mr. Allowelt reports in a wire today that grapes held at 36° show material increase in raising in one week. Since refrigerator-car temperatures are rarely this low during transit, it is reasonable to suppose that the same changes would take place to a more marked degree under usual transit conditions, especially in the upper layers of a load where temperatures between 40° and 50° are common.

In view of this evidence and because of differences reported in percentages of raisined stock at shipping and receiving points, inspectors in receiving markets in the future are directed to report raising as a factor of condition and no reversals of shipping-point certificates will be made on account of this condition.

For the information of receiving-point inspectors regarding "raisined," "raising" or "wilted" grapes, the following quotation from a letter of September 15 by C. W. Hauck should be carefully studied and should serve as a guide in certifying this difficult point:

"Are our receiving-market inspectors employing the same interpretation of 'raisined' or 'raising' that the California shipping-point inspectors are using? The service here does not consider that a wilted grape may be called a raisin until it has begun to assume the characteristic taste, color and form of a raisin, and during the curing process prior to this stage these grapes are called wilted. In other words, three stages are being recognized: (1) plump, fresh grapes; (2) wilted grapes which have just begun to lose their moisture and are becoming flabby or soft, but have not yet taken on the characteristic color, taste or form of the product known commercially as raisins; and (3) all grapes which have become completely raisined or have progressed far enough in the curing process to have assumed the color, taste, and angular outline of a raisin.

"To quote Ed. Powell: 'Although wilting probably constitutes the first stage of the raising process, a berry cannot be called a raisin until it shows unmistakably the characteristics of the product popularly known as a raisin, viz. the shriveled skin, angular outline, and in white grapes the change of color to a purplish brown. In black grapes the shape of the berry and the appearance of the skin will have to govern, as the change of color is not pronounced.' "

(Continued over)

Inspectors should explain to any parties who may protest this policy that it has been adopted as a result of careful experiments covering this point and that it is impossible under the Rules and Regulations to make "reinspections" covering factors which may have changed since the previous inspection.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman is spending this week in Chicago. He attended a meeting of freight claim agents, at which he presented the possibilities of an extended use of the Inspection Service in receiving markets. A conference also was held with Minnesota people regarding shipping-point inspection of potatoes in that State; this matter may necessitate Mr. Sherman's going to Minneapolis before he returns to Washington.

F. M. Patton modified his itinerary so as to include Chicago. He spent Tuesday in that city, to attend the conference with railroad officials.

After a day or two in the Washington office, E. E. Conklin, Jr., left with Robert Bier on Saturday for Florida. Mr. Conklin will again be in charge of the standardization work, in connection with shipping-point inspections in Florida this season. Orlando likely will be his headquarters, and "General Delivery" his local mail address for the present.

Doniphan County, Kansas, apples are being inspected at shipping points by K. S. Branch, of the Kansas City office. His headquarters during the next month will be Troy, Kansas.

PLEASE NOTE that the Omaha office is closed for the next few weeks, R. M. Balster, who was acting in charge, has gone to Kansas City, where he will handle the local inspections while Mr. Branch is absent on field duty.

H. T. Longino is on leave at Sulphur Springs, Texas, until September 27. On the 29th, he will return to Houston and reopen the office in that city.

B. E. Shaffer has now gone to Michigan to make investigations regarding the grading of grapes at shipping points in that territory.

F. E. Hooper, who substituted in the Boston office for several weeks, returned recently to New York City, and will assist with inspection work there until Mr. Bier needs him in Florida.

The Rocky Ford, Colo., office of the Market News Service was not closed on September 20, as indicated last week, but was continued in operation until yesterday on account of the continued heavy movement of melons. This delayed Mr. Sutton's departure for Grand Junction and also delayed Mr. Lamb's departure for Chicago, via Denver.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The Inspectors' Training Class in Chicago will complete its work early next week. About October 1, these men will be assigned as follows:

L. G. C. Peirce will be located permanently in the St. Louis office.
A. S. Mason will become a member of the New York inspection staff.
J. C. Townsend, Jr., will return to Florida on shipping-point work.
W. E. Hall also will go to Orlando, Fla., to issue market reports.
T. R. Hall and P. L. Baden will remain for the present in Chicago.
J. W. Howard and G. W. Winfrey have not yet been given assignments.

H. S. Stiles is again on duty in the Boston office, after his recent vacation. J. D. Evers has now started on his year's furlough.

G. A. DeHaven, who has been substituting in the Chicago office of the News Service, will take the remainder of his annual leave next week, and then proceed to Florida, where he will again assist with inspection work.

Miss Cecelia Daly has returned to her position in the Rochester office. Miss Daly assists with the market news work in that city each season. Miss Polly Heitman, who has been in the Los Angeles office for the last two years, will start a three months' furlough on October 1.

"That old straw hat is passé this morn." A. S. Mason, of the Chicago staff, recently learned this through experience. Associates in the Chicago office reminded Mr. Mason in due time, but it seems that he did not take heed. Therefore, when Mr. Mason disobeyed the rules of Old Man Fashion on the morning of September 16, he had a perfectly good straw hat, that could have been carried over for service in 1925 and 1926, smashed beyond recognition. It is rumored that Messrs. Maynard and Howard were the chief culprits. Hard luck, Mr. Mason, hard luck! Reports do not state what happened to Maynard and Howard.

Following his return to Trenton, N. J., Wm. E. Lewis proceeded later to Indianapolis, Ind., and can be reached in care of B. H. Rowell, at our Indianapolis office, until October 1. Mr. Lewis finds more interest in the grades for cannery tomatoes in Indiana than elsewhere, and will hold conferences with interested parties at Purdue University.

H. C. Farnworth has advised that mail for the Orlando office can be addressed to P. O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 40

October 31, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. POTATO SITUATION IN WISCONSIN.

In a letter of September 25, W. H. Mosier gives the following information regarding Wisconsin potatoes:-

"I have never seen a better prospect for potatoes in this part of the country. As you know, I made a trip through the more important producing sections of the State, and the quality of the stock is very high indeed. The chief factor contributing toward this end has been the unusually cool summer and heavy rainfall. Growers tell me that there has been practically no real warm weather through Wisconsin this summer, while the rainfall has been far above normal. This seems rather strange, when all reports from our men in the Southwest and West indicate more or less of a drouth in those regions.

"Due to weather conditions already mentioned, the Wisconsin season is from two to four weeks late. The potatoes in the southern half of the State are still green and growing, while the vines in the northern half were killed by frost about the middle of September. The yield, however, was not materially reduced, as the tubers had almost made their full growth. Digging has started in a limited way, although this operation has been retarded by wet fields. Yields are reported anywhere from 150 to 250 bushels per acre, and personally I think the average may reach almost 200. The stock is practically free from scab and other defects, comparatively smooth and of good size. Some late blight has been reported from low lying fields, but just how serious this disease will become cannot be determined at this early date.

"Notwithstanding the splendid quality of the stock, the market is practically at a standstill. Shipments from the State are averaging about 30 cars per day, as compared with almost twice that many at this time last season. The market at Antigo started at \$1.10 to the growers for round whites and promptly declined to 50¢, which is the prevailing price all over the State today. Of course the growers are not inclined to haul at this figure, feeling that there must be an advance in the near future. It looks as though peak of the movement would be somewhat later than usual this season "

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 27:

Page 198 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in weekly review.

- Condition of Colorado bean crop. (filler)

199 - New York Expects Good Grape Season. (based on clipping received from A. E. Prugh)

200 - Colorado Potatoes Moving, - by R. H. Lamb.

- Hood River - White Salmon Apple Prospects Good, - by G. E. Prince.

208 - Foreign Market Prospects for American Apples.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. EXCELLENT COOPERATION FROM APPLE SHIPPERS IN NORTHWEST.

Writing under date of September 27, G. E. Prince advises that the number of Northwestern apple shippers forwarding copies of their account sales and reporting sales in other ways is larger than ever before, and only a few minor factors are failing to cooperate. Reports also are rendered more promptly thus making it possible to have an f.o.b. report for publication in our bulletin which is more nearly up-to-date than where reports of sales to Spokane lag behind.

To the time of Mr. Prince's writing, sales on approximately 6,300 cars had been reported to the Spokane office. Since commercial estimates indicate that total shipments from Washington, Idaho and Oregon will not be more than 30,000 cars, this means that at least 20% of the crop already has changed ownership at least once.

2b. NEW MIMEOGRAPH STENCILS DEVELOPED.

Mimeograph stencils have recently been developed which do not require moistening with Dermox or similar liquid. The A.B. Dick Company has placed on the market a "Mimeotype" stencil, which has been tested in several of our offices with satisfactory results. They cost \$3.40 per quire, as compared with \$3.15 per quire for the Dermatype stencils. They are now on contract and will be furnished upon request. It is suggested that those of our offices which have not tried the Mimeotype stencils request a quire for trial. The long stencils are known as "Mimeotype No. 900."

In using the new Mimeotype stencils, which resemble the Dermatype stencils in appearance, no moistening is required. However, a thin fibrous sheet is inserted between the stencil and the backing. A supply of these insert sheets is furnished with each quire of stencils. When the Mimeotype stencil is used, care should be taken that the typewriter is perfectly clean, and particularly free from Dermox. It is not necessary to strike the keys of the typewriter with as much force as when using the Dermatype stencil. By striking the key too hard or using too hard a platen, the o's and e's are likely to be cut out. It may be necessary to clean the type more frequently than customary. In offices where the new Mimeotype stencils are adopted, copper wire brushes will be furnished if desired, in place of the ordinary typewriter brushes, as they are more efficient.

We shall be glad to have reports from all offices using the new Mimeotype stencils. It is believed that a reduction in cost of overhauling stencil typewriters, as well as a saving in the price of Dermox and incident unpleasant handling of the liquid, will make the use of these new stencils economical. We want to find out.

3b. MEASURING THE MELON MARKET.

W. P. Hedden and Nathan Cherniack are authors of a mimeographed preliminary report on "Measuring the Melon Market." This comprehensive study of the New York City watermelon situation comprises 24 pages and is admirably illustrated with five multigraphed charts or graphs, treating of the melon supply and prices.

4b. RECORD OF SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER.

The 351 services over the leased wire during September is the largest number of which we have any record, - 63 more than the total for August. It is to be hoped that this very large figure can be materially reduced during October.

We realize that the market wires are written under high pressure, but the telegrapher cannot send as rapidly as the reports are being prepared, and there should always be an opportunity to check part of the market reports before they are placed on the wire. Wires which have been sent should be checked as soon as possible, and "voluntary corrections," which are not counted as services, prepared for anything which is incorrect.

It will be noticed that a new heading is included in the classification for this month: "Unanswered Services." Every service should be answered promptly. It is part of the duty of the telegrapher to ask the man in charge of the office, if necessary, for replies to services, if they are not answered within half an hour of receipt. If the man in charge is not in the office and no one there can answer the service, Washington should be notified of the probable time of his return, so we can know whether or not to hold up a serviced report for a reply.

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING SEPTEMBER, 1924.

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Un-classified Services to Markets	Un-necessary Services by Wash.	Un-answered Services	Voluntary Corrections (see note)
Atlanta	10	3		1	5	1		3
Baltimore	10	7	2		1			4
Boston	63	28	16	7	7		5	6
Chicago	69	29	15	9	13	2	1	10
Cincinnati	16	8	3	2	3			1
Fort Worth**	24	9	4	6	3		2	1
Kansas City	21	7	5	6	2		1	4
Minneapolis*	14	10	2		2			1
New York	54	18	9	13	13		1	17
Omaha	3			1	2			
Philadelphia	38	19	3	4	11		1	2
Pittsburgh	10	2	1	5	2			9
St. Louis	19	6	1	5	5		2	9
Washington								15
SEPT. TOTAL	351	146	61	59	69	3	13	82
AUG. TOTAL	288	125	39	56	65	3	-	51

* Including St. Paul. ** Including Dallas.

NOTE: Not included in table of Services.

5b. APPLE MOVEMENT FROM MARTINSBURG DISTRICT.

In his f.o.b. wire this morning, F. H. Scruggs, of the Martinsburg, W. Va., office says: "Total shipments from this entire section through September approximately 40% of last season's shipments during same period. Grimes and Staymans fairly heavy crop; Jonathans, York Imperials and Ben Davis very light."

6b. CUBA A HEAVY BUYER OF TIDEWATER POTATOES.

An interesting newspaper clipping, just received from J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, tells of the movement of Virginia potatoes to Cuba:-

"Thousands of barrels of Irish potatoes are being shipped from Norfolk to Cuba. There have been shipped already approximately 25,000 barrels and there are considerably more to go as soon as vessels bound that way stop here to be loaded.

"The American steamer 'Munsomo' and the British steamers 'Lady Brenda' and 'Pinar Del Rio,' sailed Monday with approximately 15,000 barrels of Eastern Shore and Norfolk potatoes on board. The three shipments, all leaving this port at about the same time, are the largest that ever went out of here simultaneously.

"Cuba purchased large quantities of seed potatoes from Maine last fall and it was believed that an unusually large crop would be produced by the Southern Republic this year. The predicted crops must not have come up to expectations, however, because Cuba is buying more potatoes from Norfolk this year than last year.

"It is said that something like 40,000 to 50,000 barrels of Virginia potatoes will be shipped to Havana and other Cuban ports before the present season closes.

"Eastern Shore potatoes also are being shipped to northern markets in large quantities. Several hundred barrels were loaded on a Washington-bound steamer at Old Point a few nights ago, and thousands of barrels are being shipped to New York on Old Dominion steamers every day."

Another clipping gives more definite information regarding the rumor that Eastern Shore potato growers likely will plant some of their acreage to cotton. It appears that experimental plantings are certain to be made by a considerable number of growers, to see whether or not cotton production will be successful.

7b. CHANGES RELATING TO ST. PAUL MARKET REPORTS.

Because practically no market or field stations are at present using the St. Paul market reports, it has been decided to stop sending the reports for that city over the leased wire. The Minneapolis representative will continue to obtain St. Paul receipts, prices, etc., for use in the local bulletins as frequently as possible.

8b. ADDITIONAL PUBLICITY FOR SPECIAL ARTICLES.

The entire article covering distribution of Georgia peaches this season, written by V. D. Callanan and reprinted in part in the D.L. for September 19, was published in the September 27 issue of the New York Produce News. This story likely will appear in other trade papers to which it was sent, as The Georgia Peach magazine, for which it was originally prepared, has discontinued publication until next spring.

In the Rochester market report for last Saturday, A. E. Prugh reprinted G. E. Prince's excellent article on the Wenatchee Valley Apple Situation, which was published in "Crops and Markets" for September 20, page 184. This is a plan worth following by other field stations particularly, as it places in the hands of a lot of interested growers and shippers valuable material that is released only through "Crops and Markets." The 80,000 or more voluntary crop reporters now regularly receive only the Monthly Supplements to "Crops and Markets," unless they subscribe to the weekly issues.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF. ** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. ** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes Pears " Peaches* Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Sept. 16 Aug. 25 Sept. 22	Oct. 31 Sept. 6 Oct. 4 Sept. 22* Oct. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH. ** Room 1, Commercial Blk.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears Potatoes Onions Grapes Peaches	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 22 Sept. 23	Oct. 18 Oct. 4 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 11
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 8 Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 4 Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. ** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 9, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following stations probably will open on date indicated:

ORLANDO, FLA. **	920	W. H. Hall	CitrusErt	Oct. 20	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. **	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 20 Oct. 20 Oct. 20	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31

** State Department cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. H. Lamb- in Chicago office.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. HOLLANDER CABBAGE IN WISCONSIN.

Certain shippers in Wisconsin object to having Hollander cabbage called Danish and insist that the variety they grow is not real Danish. The easiest way to avoid useless discussion of this point is to call all Wisconsin cabbage of this type "Hollander." New York cabbage of the same type, of course, should be called Danish. If this policy is followed, receivers cannot use our certificates as evidence that they have received a different variety of cabbage than they ordered.

The next two items were submitted by Dr. D. H. Rose, Pathologist, B.P.I.:

2c. FREEZING INJURY IN APPLES.

There is now appearing in apples on the market a condition which somewhat resembles apple rust but is actually due to injury by freezing when the apples were small. Affected portions are found at the blossom-end of the fruit in the form of hard, green, slightly-sunken areas. The surface of such areas is sometimes shriveled but never shows the pustules characteristic of apple rust. Affected specimens are nearly always distorted at the blossom-end and the larger the green area the greater the distortion.

Cross- and longi-sections show a blotchy or streaked browning, half an inch deep or more in the flesh underlying the green areas.

The only variety so far observed by the writer as showing this injury is Delicious; it is known, however, that other varieties sometimes are affected.

3c. FRUIT-SPOT OF APPLES.

Attention of inspectors is called to the fact that fruit-spot of apples can be recognized best by removing the spots with the thinnest possible paring. There will then be seen the speckled appearance which is characteristic of this disease, but it will show up much more distinctly than in spots left in the natural unpared condition. The specks are easily visible to a good pair of eyes but come out more clearly, of course, if a hand lens is used.

4c. INSPECTORS' CONFERENCES.

It is expected to hold a number of small conferences of inspectors during the latter part of October, principally for the purpose of familiarizing all receiving-point men with details of Florida citrus grades. We plan to inspect the entire tonnage of the Florida Citrus Exchange during the coming season and feel very sure that there will be many protests and requests for reinspections in receiving markets. The grades for Florida citrus have been promulgated since most of our inspectors entered the service, and so they have not had the instruction which is necessary in order to be sure that they are applying these grades in the same way they were applied at shipping points. Conferences probably will be held in Washington, New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans. E. E. Conklin, Jr., is now collecting samples of citrus fruit to show the various factors of grade and will carry these samples with him from place to place, as the conferences progress. Full details will be announced at a later date.

F. G. ROBB, Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned to the Washington office this morning, after his recent trip to Chicago and Minneapolis.

Mr. Robb spent Wednesday in New York City. He discussed the application of the grape grades and assisted inspectors in examining a few cars of western grapes. Mr. Robb also made preliminary arrangements for the conferences of inspectors which are mentioned on another page of this D. L.

Mr. Samson accompanied Mr. Robb on the New York trip and remained over until Saturday. He also studied the application of the grades for grapes in actual inspections of this fruit, and looked into matters related to the marketing of citrus fruits.

H. A. Spilman was in Harrisburg on Tuesday, attending the annual conference of weights and measures officials of the State of Pennsylvania. He discussed "Standard Container Laws from the Federal Official's Viewpoint."

Robert W. Davis, whose appointment was mentioned in the Office Notes for August 22, has now reported for duty in Mr. Spilman's section. Mr. Davis formerly was employed in the Bureau of Public Roads.

Leaving Washington next Tuesday night, both Mr. Spilman and Mr. Davis will go to Chicago for the annual convention of the National Basket and Fruit Package Manufacturers' Association, to be held in that city October 8 and 9.

F. E. Hooper stopped at the Washington office on Monday, en route from New York City to Florida. He stopped at Macon, Ga., and drove one of the inspection automobiles from there to Florida, in which State Mr. Hooper will assist with shipping-point inspection work this season.

G. R. Warren, who recently went from Philadelphia to New York City, also was a visitor in the Washington office this week. He is driving by automobile all the way to Florida, where he too will help with the inspections at shipping points.

Another inspector who will pick up one of the automobiles at Macon is J. C. Townsend, Jr. He will start from Chicago within a few days and return to Florida, via Macon, reaching Florida around October 10.

C. H. Behnke, who has been supervising the inspection work in western New York, will return to New York City by the end of this week, and have an operation for the removal of his tonsils before proceeding to Florida, to help with the shipping-point service in that territory.

H. V. Stephens has gone from the New York office to Rochester, where he will take over the work formerly handled by Mr. Behnke. He can be reached at 409 Triangle Bldg.

J. B. Wright has returned to his headquarters at San Pedro, Calif., after having substituted for Walter Kingsbury, Navy Inspector at San Diego.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Miss Ella Mae Martin, clerk-typist in the Atlanta office, visited the Washington office on Tuesday. Miss Martin is on her annual vacation.

R. R. Pailthorp, of Mr. Samson's project; G. B. Fiske, of the publicity section, and Mr. Wilcox, photographer, will leave early next week for the apple shipping sections of western Maryland and Virginia, eastern West Virginia, and southern Pennsylvania. They will make a study of the barrel-apple industry and will obtain a number of photographs for use in preparation of bulletins. This trip may require a week or ten days' time.

Following his recent trip to Indiana, in the interest of grades for cannery tomatoes, W.E. Lewis returned to his desk in Washington this morning.

After his three months' furlough, H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, is again on duty in Washington.

Miss Emma L. McKernan, who has been assisting with the records of shipping-point inspection certificates in Mr. Robb's section, went on leave yesterday at her home in Reynoldsville, Pa., and then will become clerk-typist in the Boston joint office.

In order that R. M. Peterson may take the remainder of his vacation, J. W. Howard will go on Sunday from Chicago to Minneapolis, to assist in that office for about ten days.

Manley Stockton, formerly connected with our Grades and Standards project but now in the employ of the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, with headquarters at DeLand, Fla., visited friends in the Washington office this week. Mr. Stockton is especially interested in the Federal-State inspection service in Florida, because the crop insurance contracts which he places so widely are based partly on the Federal grade specifications and inspections.

Sympathy is expressed for Mrs. Lillian V. Walsh in the death of her father, which occurred at Petersburg, W. Va., on Wednesday. Mrs. Walsh is absent from Mr. Clay's section to attend the funeral services.

Washington employees are deeply interested in the World Series baseball games to be played here between the Washington team and New York Giants, starting this Saturday.

No grape market report was issued at Fresno, Calif., on Thursday, because of the general holiday in observance of "Raisin Day."

John D. Snow is making a trip to the San Luis Valley potato points over this week-end. He will return to Denver by Monday. He plans to visit the western Nebraska potato districts between October 11 and 13. These trips are in the interest of the market reports issued from the Denver office and distributed to potato growers and shippers throughout Colorado and Nebraska.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. S. Lumbard, of the Kansas City office, made a short trip this week to Lawrence and Topeka, Kans., for the purpose of obtaining information needed in his summary of the Kaw Valley potato deal.

R. H. Lamb stopped at the Denver office on Wednesday, en route to Chicago, where he will take over the market reporting work formerly handled by W. H. Hall,

Word from W. F. Allewelt's office, at Sacramento, indicates that the co-operative inspectors in California are now located as follows:-

F. C. Cadwallader and H. F. Larson, 285 Wholesale Terminal Building,
K. R. Nutting, 523 Fourth St., Santa Rosa. \ Los Angeles.
E. J. Powell, Mull Building, Sacramento.
H. W. Peterson and C. E. Linwood, 2117 Inyo St., Fresno.
Samuel Preston, temporarily at 201 Bank of Italy Bldg., San Jose.
C. H. Beasley is still at Watsonville.
S. S. Rogers is at headquarters, Sacramento.

ALL INSPECTORS have been sent copies of the recently-revised grades for Cabbage, effective October 1. These new grades also were widely distributed to cabbage growers and shippers and the trade.

CORRECTION: F. S. Kinsey has called attention to a shortage in the report of inspections made at Mississippi shipping points during the fiscal year ending June, 1924. On page 409 of the D. L. for Sept. 5, Mississippi should be changed from 1709 to 1896 inspections, and all totals corrected accordingly.

John D. Snow's residence address and telephone number in Denver have been changed to:- 735 Pennsylvania Street, Apt. 6; phone South 4633-R. Please make this correction on your Market Station Address List, dated July 25.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 41

October 10, 1924

(Contents Confidential)

1a. HEAVY RECEIPTS BY TRUCK IN LOS ANGELES.

Unusually interesting data are presented in the following letter of September 29, from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office:-

"Perhaps you will recall my statement that truck receipts on this market would exceed receipts by rail on many commodities. I am in receipt of a report made by Harold L. Pomeroy, Horticultural Commissioner for Kern County, giving the details of the operation of an inspection station maintained at Lebec, on the Ridge Route road, leading to Los Angeles. This station was maintained to prevent the movement of immature grapes from Kern County, but incidentally the records bring out some very interesting facts.

"This station was operated day and night for a two-weeks' period, July 23 to August 5 inclusive, and inspected 404 trucks, loaded with 107,330 lugs of grapes, or an average daily movement of 29 trucks, hauling approximately eight carloads of grapes per day. Our records show that from July 24 to August 6 inclusive, only eight carloads of grapes were received in this market by rail, indicating that the movement by truck was fourteen times heavier than the rail movement.

"Another interesting feature was that, of the total of 404 trucks, 310 came from Kern County points, 54 from Tulare County points, 33 from Fresno County, and 7 from other counties. No inspection was made of other fruits or vegetables and consequently no record was kept of the volume of movement other than grapes.

"When you consider that the Ridge Route is only one of five major highways leading into Los Angeles, it is evident that the movement to this market by truck must be of tremendous importance. The fact that 33 trucks came from Fresno County, was somewhat surprising, for the city of Fresno is 241 miles from Los Angeles, indicating a longer haul than is generally considered profitable. It is likely that the truck movement this year is proportionately heavier than in normal years, for the reason that depression in building trades has temporarily thrown many independent truckers out of employment. These people have turned to the transportation of perishables and are generally willing to haul at slightly lower rates than the big truck companies. It would be extremely interesting if the complete record of the movement by truck could be secured, but, of course, it is impossible except in scattered instances, such as the one cited. It may be said that practically this entire truck movement of the Ridge came to Los Angeles, since it was not likely that over one or two per cent went to the smaller towns."

2a. SPECIAL STATISTICS ON CITRUS FRUITS.

The September 17 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets contains 14 pages of statistical and other matter, relating to American export trade in citrus fruits and the citrus industry in various foreign countries. Complete statistics are given on exports and imports of these products.

3a. BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY FIELD OFFICES.

Inspectors and market news men occasionally receive inquiries as to the regulations governing the markings of the quantity of the contents on packages of fresh fruits and vegetables. These regulations are issued by the Bureau of Chemistry under the Net Weight Amendment to the Food and Drugs Act, and such inquiries should be referred to the nearest office of that Bureau. A list of these offices is given below:

FIELD ORGANIZATION OF THE BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY ENGAGED IN THE
ENFORCEMENT OF THE FEDERAL FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Office	Officer in charge	Location
Central District:		
District headquarters, Chicago, Ill.	Roscoe E. Doolittle ¹	1625 Transportation Bldg., Dearborn and Harrison Sts.
Station headquarters- Chicago, Ill.	A. E. Paul ²	1625 Transportation Bldg., Dearborn and Harrison Sts.
Cincinnati, Ohio	H. D. Garrett ²	411 Government Bldg., Fifth, Main and Walnut Sts.
Kansas City, Mo.	W. H. Hartigan ³	409 Post Office Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn.	H. Runkel ³	310 Federal Office Bldg., Third St. and Marquette Ave.
New Orleans, La.	A. L. Burns ²	U. S. Customhouse, Canal and Decatur Sts.
St. Louis, Mo.	E. R. Smith ²	Room 201, Old Customhouse, Third and Olive Sts.
Eastern District:		
District headquarters, New York, N.Y.	W. R. M. Wharton ¹	1034 U. S. Appraiser's Stores, Christopher and Washington Sts.
Station headquarters- Baltimore, Md.	D. M. Walsh ²	218 Water Street.
Boston, Mass.	George H. Adams ²	U. S. Appraiser's Stores, 408 Atlantic Ave.
Buffalo, N. Y.	H. J. Humphrey ²	Federal Bldg., South Division and Ellicott Sts.
New York, N.Y.	Harry W. Redfield ²	1012 U. S. Appraiser's Stores, Christopher and Wash. Sts.
Philadelphia, Pa.	C. S. Brinton ²	Room 405, U. S. Appraiser's Stores, 134 South Second St.
San Juan, P. R.	Willford J. McGee ²	301-304 Post Office Bldg., The Marina.
Savannah, Ga.	J. O. Clark ²	U. S. Customhouse, Bay & Bull Sts.
Western District:		
District headquarters, San Francisco, Calif.	W. Vincent ¹	Room 33, U. S. Appraiser's Stores, Sansome & Wash. Sts.
Station headquarters- Denver, Colo.	H. J. Holland ²	Tabor Opera House Bldg., Sixteenth and Curtis Sts.
San Francisco, Calif.	G. J. Morton ²	Room 33, U. S. Appraiser's Stores, Sansome and Wash. Sts.
Seattle, Wash.	Arthur W. Hansen ²	4145 Arcade Bldg., 1318-1st. Ave.
Inspection Office- Los Angeles, Calif.	Barclay C. Winslow ⁴	Post Office, Box 395

¹Chief of district. ²Chief of station. ³Acting chief of station. ⁴Inspector

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. LETTUCE PROSPECTS IN IMPERIAL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA.

Since the publication of Mr. Harris' letter on page 440 of the D. L. for September 26, the following letter of October 2 will be of interest in connection with the lettuce situation in Imperial Valley:

"I am now informed that rains in the watershed of the Colorado River have increased the flow until supplies are adequate for irrigation in the Imperial Valley. County Horticultural Commissioner Harrigan has issued a preliminary estimate of the lettuce plantings in the Valley as 20,000 acres, or an increase of nearly 2,000 over last year. Since planting will continue for at least 60 days, a more dependable estimate cannot be secured for several weeks."

2b. IDAHO FALLS POTATO DEAL SLOW.

The following is from a letter of October 2, from G. D. Clark, in charge of the Idaho Falls field station:-

"The deal is starting off rather slow. The California market is in bad shape, partly due to liberal supplies of Stockton potatoes and partly due to immature stock from here. Digging is well under headway and most of the stock is going into storage. The growers are inclined to sell only when in need of ready cash. The quality is going to be exceptionally fine this year, especially on the Russets. It is my opinion that in a couple of weeks, after the potatoes have had time to harden, the complaint of Idaho stock arriving in poor condition will seldom be seen in the market reports. The first frost was on the night of the September 19. One week later we had another frost and in a few more days the skins will not slip so easily; in fact there is a marked improvement in the stock coming in this week."

3b. BIG DEMAND FOR CERTIFIED MARKET REPORTS.

Out of 100 requests received in Washington during September from claim agents and others for price information, 71 required certified copies, - the largest number for any month of which we have a record. About half of these stated the amount of their claims, which totaled close to \$50,000.

During September, 1923, about 50% more requests were received, but only 26 of these required certifications and the total sum involved, as given in the letters, was only \$10,000.

We have been able to supply practically all requests for certified copies of market reports by an arrangement with the Solicitor's Office, whereby certifications are issued on typed copies of prices, etc., on file, in case the originals are not available for distribution.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 4:

Page 213 - 1924 Onion Crop in Egypt and Spain.

214 - Special paragraphs on onions in weekly review.

215 - Yakima Valley Potatoes Moving, - by G. E. Prince.

- Potato Season Slow in Wisconsin, - by W. H. Mosier.

216 - Colorado Fruits and Vegetables, - by John D. Snow.

- Yakima Apple Shippers Optimistic, - by G. E. Prince.

- Fewer Wenatchee-Okanogan Apples, - by G. E. Prince.

219 - Cantaloupe supply from Colorado. (filler)

224 - Exports for July and August, 1923 and 1924, of

fresh Apples, dried Apples, Prunes, Apricots and Raisins.

5b. A PECULIAR REPLY TO A CIRCULAR LETTER.

In a recent circularization of his mailing list, R. S. Lombard, of the Kansas City office, inserted three questions to be answered just below the signature on all replies. One man, located in Nebraska, filled in the answers as follows: Are You a Grower? YES. A Dealer? YES. An Educator? DUM BELL. As a postscript, he added: "It looks like a man that keeps growing potatoes is a dum bell for certain. Your reports have been very helpful to me."

6b. SPECIAL REPORT ON ARRIVALS AND UNLOADS IN CHICAGO.

W. H. Hall has just distributed a series of interesting and valuable summaries on the important fruits and vegetables received in Chicago during 1923. Each principal product is given a separate sheet. The first four columns of each table present the State aspects of the particular crop, while the last four columns relate to the local situation in Chicago. Column headings are as follows:-

Principal States	1923 Production (bushels)	Shipping Season	Carlot Shipments 1923 Crop	Chicago Arrivals 1923	Chicago Unloads 1923	Principal Varieties	Principal Containers
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The products for which such tables are presented are: Apples, Cabbage, Cantaloupes, Lettuce, Celery, Onions, Cranberries, Peaches, Pears, Watermelons, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Grapes, Tomatoes, and Strawberries. At the bottom of each sheet and for each product, explanatory comments are inserted and statistics relating to the United States production and shipments in comparison with the preceding year.

A simpler table or a brief textual discussion of Chicago arrivals is given for each of the following: Turnips and Rutabagas, Peppers, Spinach, Plums & Prunes, Pineapples, Apricots, Asparagus, Artichokes, Beans (green and wax), Beets, Blueberries, Carrots, Cauliflower, Chicory, Cherries, Corn (green), Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Gooseberries, Grapefruit, Kale, Lemons, Mixed Fruit, Shallots, Squash, Brussels Sprouts, Mixed Vegetables, Oranges, Parsnips, Peas (green), Peanuts, Pomegranates, Radishes, Raspberries, and Rhubarb.

Copies of this elaborate summary can be had on application to Chicago office.

7b. WEEKLY CABLE ON BRITISH APPLE PRICES.

A feature of the apple market reports this season is the weekly cable from Agricultural Commissioner Foley, at London, giving a somewhat detailed report of prices obtained for American apples in British markets. This is of special value in view of the increased export movement.

8b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

This week there has been distributed W. H. Mosier's 21-page summary of the WISCONSIN POTATO DEAL, Season of 1923-24. This is a very complete review.

9b. RADIO PROGRAM IN PHILADELPHIA.

Under date of October 10, the Philadelphia office issued an Announcement of the complete radio program in that city, as it relates to farm products. For Stations WFI and WIP, respectively, the various reports on fruits and vegetables, live stock, meats, grain, feeds, peanuts, poultry and eggs are listed by days and by hours. Persons preparing these reports evidently are kept busy.

E. W. STILLWELL, Specialist in Market News.

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** State Department cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. H. Lamb- in Chicago office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. UTAH APPLE GRADES.

A circular just received from Supervising Inspector F. J. Baehler, Salt Lake City, gives the apple grades for Utah, as adopted by a Committee of the State Board of Agriculture. These grades are the same as Washington State grades and are slightly different from the grades as adopted by Utah last year.

2c. CONFERENCES ON CITRUS GRADES.

Account of lateness of the citrus season in Florida, it will not be possible to begin the proposed conferences earlier than October 20. Notices will be sent to individual inspectors as to where they will be expected to attend.

These conferences will not be limited to citrus grades, and all inspectors are requested to make a list of points for discussion and also to collect specimens which are interesting, either from a grade or from a pathological standpoint. It is expected to have Dr. D. H. Rose attend these conferences and take up such pathological matters as may be of interest at the time.

3c. WENATCHEE-OKANOGAN APPLE SITUATION.

The following information, received in a letter of September 21 from F. S. Kinsey, is of interest and importance to all inspectors:

"Last season, with shipments of apples from the Wenatchee-Okanogan district amounting to 18,400 cars, inspections totaled about 7,300. This season, with an estimated crop of 12,000 cars, about 7,000 are signed up for inspection. The Jonathan pack-out has been a disappointment, however, on account of worms; so the total crop may not amount to more than 10,000 cars and inspections 6,000. The Stookum Packers have given us their inspections at certain points, stating unofficially that we will get all their inspection another year. It seems that their budget for this season was made up some time ago and it did not provide enough for maintaining their field force and for taking our inspections on all cars.

"As I wired you, taking advantage of extra words allowed in a night letter; in some sections our inspectors are having their hands full, keeping worms out of the packs. Hot weather caused a large proportion of the third brood to hatch, which seemed to be ravenous for arsenate of lead. Many such youngsters preferred to enter by way of the calyx-end, frequently leaving such slight traces as to be almost impossible to see. As late as last week eggs were hatching upon the apples. In some cases, eggs were known to hatch after the apples were packed, making fresh holes. Some of these may be encountered by inspectors in the markets. If so, a reversal of the shipping point certificate could scarcely be made. Some stock which was accepted by the inspector as it came into the warehouse has been turned down when the inspection was made during loading, but most of the stock has been shipped about as fast as received into the house. Cool weather during the last two or three days probably has stopped the hatching of new worms.

"The apple season/ⁱⁿthis State is two or three weeks ahead of the season/^{last} year. It appeared that Jonathans and Delicious would be about all shipped out by the first of October. Some Newtowns are already being picked. Many Jonathans were left on the trees too long, and internal breakdown is beginning to show up at this end before the apples are shipped. I have seen various indications that Washington apples are not going to keep so well this year as last. The testings which Mr. Fischer and Mr. Diehl have been making bear this out. Mr. Fischer thinks that likely the apples would be good for a normal life, if picked when ready and placed at once into proper storage. But nobody expects northwestern apples to be picked and handled with a view to maintaining their fitness for eating. Those here in Wenatchee, who might do so, this past week contemplated putting on a campaign to warn the growers of the unfavorable conditions this season, urging them not to delay their picking. However, nothing was done."

For best results, apples from this district will have to be put into consumption at once or rushed to eastern cold storage, as too long a season of moderate weather is still ahead for making common storage safe. Yakima is better off with its large number of cold storages.***

"The old market apple circular gave the 'Wenatchee Valley' as one of the chief apple districts of the Northwest. The Wenatchee Valley is not more than 25 miles long. The Wenatchee-Okanogan apple district, or as it is more frequently called in the papers out here, North-Central Washington district, consists of several valleys or miscellaneous locations. The two farthest points I have to visit are 220 miles apart and there are various ramifications sidewise. Apples which are sold for Wenatchee apples may have been grown 100 miles or more from any of the various geographical objects which are named Wenatchee (valley, river, lake, city, forest reserve). The city of Wenatchee itself is not in the Wenatchee Valley, but on the Columbia River below the outlet of the Wenatchee Valley."

4c. APPLE INSPECTIONS IN KANSAS.

In a letter of September 28, K. S. Branch, who is handling the apple inspections at shipping points in Kansas, tells of this work as follows:-

"We will inspect at five towns in Doniphan County, -Troy, Appleton, Blair, Ellwood and Wathena, -but most of the inspections will be at Troy and Wathena. These two towns are 3 miles apart on a paved road, so a man can make good time from one town to another. I think I can handle the deal by myself without any trouble and will have the certificates typed at the Kansas City office. This coming week will clean up the Jonathans and then the Bens, Black Twigs, Ganos and Finesaps will be ready. There will be around 500 cars of all varieties shipped from the county. The Jonathans are practically all sold but not many of the later varieties are not yet contracted for. Total inspections may be about 150 cars.

"The stuff is being shipped in barrels, bushel baskets, and in bulk. Most of the barrel and bushel-basket stuff will meet U. S. No. 1, if they continue to pack as they have started. The bulk stuff will be graded under the Colorado Bulk grades, and a few growers expect to load some U. S. No. 1, stuff in bulk."

5c. VARIOUS MARKINGS USED ON APPLE SHIPMENTS FROM VIRGINIA.

Information of importance to all inspectors is found in the following letter of September 24, written by F. Earl Parsons, Standardization and Inspection Specialist, at Richmond, Va.:-

"Relative to your request for information on the marking of Virginia apples, will say that, inasmuch as there is no law in this State requiring special markings at this time, we necessarily must expect a wide variety of terms. A No. 1 grade designation is that principally used, but in some instances special brands; also terms such as 'extra fancy,' 'fancy,' 'choice,' etc. These terms are used principally to indicate differences in size, for practically none of the marks will meet anything better than No. 1 grade.

"Throughout the State it is the general custom of No. 2 quality, or apples of unclassified character, to be marketed in barrels carrying only the grower's name and variety, with a few perhaps having in addition the size and grade designation.

"In the State Inspection or Inspection in Orchard Work we now have 21 men at work, and expect to add additional men as the season advances. These men are located with inspection rings or groups of growers in most of the major fruit-growing counties in Virginia, ranging from Frederick and Loudon counties in the north to Patrick County on the North Carolina border. These men make daily visits to each packing crew that is a member of the Inspection Ring, and packed barrels are opened from each day's pack. The grade examination is based on the U.S. Apple Grades and is made with 40 to 50-pound samples from each barrel examined. Lots which meet the requirements of the U.S. No. 1 grade are permitted to be stamped with the State Inspected stamp on each barrel. The wording of this stamp is 'Inspected as Packed, 1924. State of Virginia - Division of Markets.'

"On any day the inspector finds the pack below grade requirements, the stamp is lifted from the possession of the grower until such time as the pack is prepared in accordance with the grade and the stamp removed from the mis-marked barrels.

"We had under contract at the beginning of the season about 450,000 barrels, but, as usual in such deals, I presume the actual pack will run nearer 200,000 barrels.

"In connection with the special terms 'fancy,' etc., as used by many of the buyers in this State, we have prepared a special stamp with wording identical to the other except that No. 1 grade is incorporated in the stamp. This is being used on such lots as carried these special markings and yet meet only the requirements of the No. 1 grade. Some of these special packs were partly prepared before we could get these stamps made and distributed to our inspectors; so a few lots of fruit thus marked may be found carrying the regular State Inspected stamp without the grade incorporated in it.

"If market inspectors find any lots bearing the State Inspected stamp, which do not meet the requirements of the No. 1 grade, I would appreciate their writing me of the barrel markings and in detail regarding the conditions which they find. Such letters should be addressed to me at 1030 State Office Building, Richmond, Virginia.

"In a few instances we are using a special stamp, triangular in shape, bearing the words: 'Lot Inspected When Packed. Virginia Division of Markets - No. 2 Grade,' and the numeral 2 is one inch in height and occupies the central position in the stamp. Only a few growers, however, are using this stamp, and the bulk of the No. 2 grade packed will go out in barrels unmarked for grade. Next season we hope to have regulations prepared, which will provide for uniform marking of the apple shipments."

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

(See Par. 6c on page 470)

OFFICE NOTES:

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor, has gone from Chicago to California for the purpose of studying the application of the grades for grapes, with special reference to raisining. He will confer not only with W. F. Allewelt and other officials at the Sacramento office, but with inspectors in the grape-shipping districts, particularly around Fresno. Mr. Butner may be on this trip until the latter part of October. M. A. Russell is in charge at the Chicago inspection headquarters during Mr. Butner's absence.

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago market news office, is expected to pass through Washington this Saturday, en route to Orlando, Fla., where he will start to issue market reports on citrus fruits in about 10 days or two weeks. Mr. Hall will stop off at the Washington office a day.

P. D. Rupert completed his leave and returned to Washington on Tuesday. Mr. Rupert will handle the local inspections and assist generally with the work in Mr. Robb's office.

A. E. Mercker has left Virginia and is now stationed permanently in North Carolina. He will be the Federal supervisor of inspection work in that State, the present operations pertaining especially to apples and sweet potatoes. Mr. Mercker's mail address is: P. O. Box 285, Raleigh, N. C.

George A. DeHaven, who has been substituting for W. H. Hall in Chicago, stopped at the Washington office on Monday, en route to Florida, where he will assist with shipping-point inspections again this season.

Another visitor during the past week was James A. Damiano, the new head-clerk in the New York City joint office.

Miss Hattie B. Cooperman, the former head-clerk in New York, is now located in Washington. Miss Cooperman is assisting in Mr. Robb's section, handling the work formerly done by Miss McKernan, who has gone to Boston office.

H. J. Clay, of the Washington market news section, is on a few days' trip to Suffolk, Va., and nearby points, to secure data on movement of peanuts.

S. N. Green, of the Cleveland office, is wearing a smile these days. A daughter was born in his home on October 2.

During the period that the Omaha office is temporarily closed, V. V. Westgate, who is supervising potato inspections in Nebraska, can be addressed in care of the State Dept. of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebr.

The usual tri-State news service on eastern grapes is being rendered this season. Mimeographed market reports are being issued by State Inspector F. C. Carr, at Buffalo, N. Y., these bulletins containing information obtained jointly from New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan grape sections.

Miss Pearl Edwards, in charge of market news mailing lists, will leave this evening for Suffolk, Va., where she will assist with tabulations of peanut shipments for the Washington office during the next two weeks.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

During September, over two million pounds of fruit and vegetables were inspected for the Navy at San Francisco, when battleships, destroyer forces, and the supply-ship "Arctic" were in port.

The New York Packer for October 4 not only printed V. D. Callanan's summary of Georgia peach distribution, but also gave a column to a review of the Northwestern Boxed Apple Summary, recently issued by the Spokane office.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE was moved last Saturday to the new headquarters in Rooms 1 and 2, Ferry Building. The new space is 1,568 square feet, compared with 848 feet in the Appraiser's Building. The Ferry Building is centrally located and is one of the most prominent points in San Francisco.

R. C. Lindstrom, now in charge of the Philadelphia inspection office, advises that his residence address is 6217 Catherine Street, and his phone number Sherwood 9450.

6c. MORE ABOUT POTATO SHIPMENTS TO CUBA.

We are glad for the following additional information in a letter of October 9 from H. H. Henderson, inspector at Norfolk, Va.:-

"Referring to the newspaper clipping quoted on page 454 of the Division Letter for October 3, in regard to the Virginia movement of potatoes to Cuba, I wish to say that the figures quoted give only a small proportion of the total movement of Eastern Shore and Norfolk section potatoes to Cuba this season. I have inspected numerous lots of from 5,000 to 15,000 barrels for Potato Wart Disease, to say nothing of hundreds of carloads in lots of from one carload to 5,000 barrels, all consigned to Cuba. I think I am safe in stating that at least 200,000 barrels of potatoes have been shipped from Norfolk to Cuba by steamer, with an additional 50,000 barrels by rail, since the beginning of the season, or about June 15. The movement of Eastern Shore potatoes to Cuba is still going on at a rate of 3,000 to 6,000 barrels per week."

F. G. R.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 42

October 17, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. A STUDY TO BE MADE OF FOREIGN MARKETS.

Edwin Smith, of the State of Washington, has been reinstated in this Bureau as an Assistant Chief Marketing Specialist. Mr. Smith reported to the Washington office of the F. & V. Division today, and very shortly will sail for Europe, where he will study the marketing of fruits and vegetables, peanuts and other American farm products for the purpose of determining: (1) the market requirements and trade preferences of European markets importing these agricultural products, with a view to improving our present methods and enlarging our outlets; (2) the amount of actual and potential competition in these markets from other surplus-producing countries; (3) the distribution within the importing countries; (4) the grade and quality of American products arriving in foreign ports, with a view to determining the practicability for export trade of the grades recommended by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Smith also expects to develop contacts, through which Governmental agencies and foreign importing trade may be familiarized with the Department's plans for the standardization and inspection of farm products.

Mr. Smith received his B. S. degree from Michigan Agricultural College in 1912, having specialized in horticulture, pomology and plant pathology. From 1917 to 1920, he was employed by this Bureau in the project which studied the preservation of fruits and vegetables in transit and storage. Practically all of Mr. Smith's work has been in the northwestern fruit districts. He resigned from the Bureau in 1920, to accept a position with the Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association. Later, Mr. Smith engaged for himself in the export business, during which time he also was employed as the northwestern representative of the United States Cold Storage Company, of Chicago. The past year, Mr. Smith served as Secretary of the Northwestern Fruit Growers' Commission.

In his European investigations Mr. Smith will have headquarters at Marseilles, France, but will study conditions in the United Kingdom and Continental Europe.

2a. THE PASSING OF OLD SOUTH WATER STREET MARKET.

In a letter of October 8, E. D. Mallison, of the Chicago market news office, tells of the progress being made in the change of location for Chicago's principal wholesale produce district:

"The tearing down of the old buildings along historic South Water Street, that has so long housed the principal produce dealers of Chicago, was started late last week. A wider and double-decked South Water Street will take the place of the present narrow and poorly-paved street. The improvement was first advocated more than 20 years ago and the movement has been fought by South Water Street merchants since then. In fact, they are still fighting to retain their present location until a new place can be definitely decided upon, but city officials declare that plenty of time has been given and that the tearing down of the buildings will continue."

3a. HIGH-QUALITY APPLES IN PIEDMONT SECTION OF VIRGINIA.

R. R. Pailthorp presents the following very interesting report of some of his observations on the recent trip through the Virginia apple districts:-

"Northwestern growers and shippers of boxed apples are always keenly interested in the Virginia crop of Winesap, Delicious and Stayman, as both sections grow these varieties extensively. I had often heard of the high quality and fine finish obtained in the Piedmont section, but my first opportunity of visiting that region occurred last week. In general, the district has a very good crop of apples. In fact, I did not see any orchards which had a light crop. Some growers believe there was more scab than last year. However, in the orchards visited, it was not so severe that much of the fruit would have to be packed No. 2 on account of this defect. I have never seen better color or size of load per tree in the Northwest than was observed in many of the Piedmont orchards, and one can readily see why the Northwest growers experience strong competition from this section.

"Growing and packing costs are much lower in Virginia. One large grower was harvesting, hauling, packing and loading at a cost of about 47¢ per barrel, exclusive of the cost of the barrel. Reduced to a bushel basis, this cost was about 16¢ per bushel. Similar costs for the Northwestern grower who packs in boxes will probably be about 35¢ per box. When it is considered that many of the Piedmont orchards are planted on new land costing about \$10 per acre, in comparison with \$500-\$1,500-acre land in the Northwest, one can readily see the advantage the Piedmont grower has in cost of production. These costs, combined with much lower freight rates, give the Piedmont orchardist advantages which are difficult for the Northwestern grower to overcome.

"A few growers in Virginia were packing in boxes. A large percentage of the crop in some orchards would pack Extra Fancy, but the growers were having difficulty in packing to meet this grade, due to inexperienced sorters and poor lighting facilities over the sorting tables. However, they were packing a combination of Extra Fancy and Fancy grade which is superior to a similar pack general in the Northwest. This superiority is due to the high color, and it was not uncommon to see the Virginian combination running 70%-85% Extra Fancy, while the Northwest requirement for the pack is only 25% Extra Fancy apples. Most defects were minor, consisting of pin-point scab and worm stings. Some growers were receiving \$5 to \$5.25 for No. 1 Winesaps in barrels and \$3 to \$3.25 for combination Extra Fancy and Fancy Delicious in boxes. These prices are about what the Northwestern growers are receiving for similar fruit.

"Most of the orchards are equipped with sizing machines, and packing from hand tables in the orchards is an uncommon sight. Many of the machines are located in sheds or barns unsuitable for effective work. However, some well-constructed and arranged packing houses are found in the Piedmont district."

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 11:

Page 230 - Special paragraphs on apples in weekly review.

231 - Potomac Valley Apple Peak Approaching, - by F. H. Scruggs.

232 - Decrease in Wisconsin Kraut Cabbage, - by W. H. Hall.

- New York Peaches Well Distributed, - by A. E. Prugh.

240 - Prices of American Apples on British Markets, week ending Oct. 4.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ONION QUOTATIONS.

(Immediate reply)

The U. S. onion grades this year provide that, unless otherwise specified, stock meeting the requirements of U. S. No. 1 grade must be at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. If the diameter is less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the minimum diameter must be specified in addition to the use of the term "U. S. No. 1." This is a departure from the general policy followed in onion grades used in previous years and apparently has caused some confusion in interpretation, not only of the grades themselves, but in determining just what the quotations in our reports mean.

We realize that it often is difficult to get correct grade and size information from the salesmen who supply the selling prices, but reporters should not describe onions as "U. S. No. 1" unless they are at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and meet the other requirements of that grade. If they meet the general requirements of U. S. No. 1, but are only $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, they should be quoted as "U. S. No. 1, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches up."

Some of the onion producing States are not following the onion grades closely and some of the market men have been quoting such stock as "No. 1." This is not desirable, but may have to be followed in some cases. In order to conform with the size requirements of the U. S. grades, however, every effort should be made to specify whether a "No. 1" quotation is based upon onions $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches up or $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches up. The preferred quotation, if it seems advisable not to quote on the basis of U. S. grades, will be "No. 1, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches up" or "No. 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches up."

Every market station man will advise Washington immediately the exact basis of quotations which he already has sent us, with especial regard to the size of the onions if the U. S. terms have been used, and indicate the policy he expects to follow during the remainder of the season.

2b. THREE ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS.

The Washington office has just issued the following summaries:--
WESTERN NEW YORK APPLE DEAL, 1923-24, and the WESTERN NEW YORK CARROT DEAL, 1923-24, both by C. L. Brown. The apple summary treats very fully the situation in New York last season. The carrot summary is illustrated by a chart, showing in graphic form the wholesale prices of carrots in New York City the last two seasons. Carrot shipments are listed by stations of origin for these two seasons.

The Philadelphia office has distributed for the first time a complete summary of the 1924 STRAWBERRY DEAL on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland and in Delaware. The front page of this booklet is illustrated with a good outline map of the general section, the principal shipping points also being marked. Authors of this excellent summary are E. R. Biddle and J. G. Scott.

3b. LETTUCE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN COLORADO.

In a letter of October 7, telling of his recent visit to the potato-shipping points in the San Luis Valley, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, described as follows the situation with respect to lettuce, etc.:

-continued over-

"The San Luis Valley, particularly around Del Norte, Granger, and South Fork, was exceptionally fortunate in head-lettuce production this year. In fact this is the only section shipping any lettuce at present, all the other sections through the State having been frozen out or have lost their crop due to the dry weather. I was not able to visit the lettuce district around Del Norte on my trip in July; so was interested in securing first-hand information on conditions there this year. About 1,000 acres of lettuce were planted, 100 acres of peas and 30 acres cauliflower. Of the 1,000 acres of lettuce, the S. A. Girard Company planted 500 acres to mature late, and they will lose considerable of it on account of freezing. Tip burn was prevalent all during the season and the heads were small, packing all the way from 4 to 8 dozen per crate; yet the deal was the most successful in the State. Peas and cauliflower did well and, in talking with some of the growers, I learned that returns were so satisfactory on all three of these crops that they are planning to increase the acreage next season and also put in some commercial acreage of celery. The shippers seem to agree that a commercial acreage of celery would be profitable, but are endeavoring to keep the growers down to their present acreage on lettuce, peas and cauliflower, realizing that this has been an exceptional season for Colorado when really poor stock sold at high prices."

4b. STORAGE OF EASTERN APPLES TO BE LESS THAN LAST SEASON.

All indications are that the quantity of eastern apples to be stored this year will be considerably less than that stored last season. See Mr. Scruggs' comments on the situation as it exists in the Potomac Valley; his article was printed on pages 231 and 232 of Crops and Markets for October 11.

The following letter of October 13, from A. E. Prugh, at Rochester, tells of conditions in that territory:-

"With reference to my letter of the October 7th, regarding the apple storage proposition, I had talked with few parties about it at that time. Further investigation seems to show that the late crop stored will be able 30% less than last year, some even claiming 50% less but that seems doubtful. Reports on the picking of late apples, however, indicate much defective fruit and a decrease around 30% from last year. The International Apple Shippers' report of October 10 shows conditions in western New York as follows: 'Duchess and Wealthys as a rule ^{up} to expectations; 20 @ounce have fallen short. Greenings thus far harvested show sizes under expectations, due to poor pollination. Much the same situation applies to the other varieties. Fungus infection has continued. Wealthys, Hubbs, Greenings and McIntosh show relatively best; Baldwins and Spys light; Russets and Bens materially less than last year. Quality ranges from poor to good. Some orchards show very good, but the district as a whole runs only fair, somewhat poorer than last year and below average. For all of the reasons above-indicated, we reduce district 11 points, with a decrease from last year of 31%. State as a whole declines 10 points and now shows 30% decrease from last year.'"

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF. ** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. ** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes Pears* Pears* Peaches* Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Sept. 16 Aug. 25 Sept. 22	Oct. 31 Sept. 6* Oct. 4* Sept. 22* Oct. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** Room 1, Commercial Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears* Potatoes Onions Grapes Peaches*	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 22 Sept. 23	Oct. 18 Oct. 13* Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 13*
PRESQUE ISLE, ME Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches* Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 8 Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 13* Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. ** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA . Room 9, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

The following stations probably will open on date indicated:

ORLANDO, FLA.**	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus	Oct. 20	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. **	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 20 Oct. 20 Oct. 20	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31

** State Department Cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. H. Lamb- in Chicago office.

CITY INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1924

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vegetables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certificate Copy Fees
Atlanta	16	15	31	53	1	0	\$124	\$ -	\$ 10
Baltimore	17	16	33	24	1	0	116	7.50	6
Boston	45	70	115	54	10	0	436	22.50	18
Buffalo	15	3	18	34	1	0	64	5.00	11
Chicago	175	31	206	193	1	3	752	12.50	45
Cincinnati	28	9	37	64	0	0	120	2.50	5
Cleveland	90	96	186	57	87	7	712	20.00	19
Columbus	20	9	29	33	3	0	116	-	1
Denver	3	0	3	10	1	0	12	-	-
Detroit	94	12	106	70	9	0	444	7.50	12
Indianapolis	10	11	21	30	1	0	80	2.50	4
Kansas City	126	28	154	45	0	0	604	5.00	10
Los Angeles	1	0	1	-	0	0	12	-	-
Memphis	14	17	31	37	21	0	124	-	4
Milwaukee	15	7	22	17	0	0	80	5.00	-
Minneapolis	35	13	48	39	2	0	180	5.00	3
New Haven	14	14	28	47	0	0	108	-	2
New Orleans	29	94	123	123	92	3	456	22.50	5
New York	279	629	908	223	22	1	2424	217.50	274
Norfolk	7	212	219	43	119	0	587	10.00	1
Omaha	11	0	11	24	1	0	44	-	-
Philadelphia	49	7	56	36	28	0	132	52.50	2
Pittsburgh	51	37	88	114	19	0	344	5.00	10
Portland	8	16	24	11	0	0	92	2.50	6
Salt Lake City	1	0	1	0	1	0	4	-	-
St. Louis	90	45	135	125	56	0	532	5.00	18
Washington	19	11	30	31	4	1	104	10.00	2
Wilkes-Barre	11	2	13	11	5	2	60	-	6
TOTAL	1273	1404	2677	1548	485	17	\$8863	\$420.00	\$474

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.... 1273 | Inspections for Carriers... 485
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections... 1404 | Declined for lack of time.. 17
 GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.... 2677 | TOTAL Fees Assessed... \$9764.50*

** Total Fees Assessed includes \$7.50 for mixed car fee.

NOTE:- The total of 2677 inspections for the month of September is the highest record for this month in the history of the Inspection Service. The next highest figure for September was in 1919, when 2209 inspections were made.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING SEPTEMBER, 1924

SYMBOLS: N Navy M-Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS.									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
NEW YORK	180932	93660	2940	4115	183872	97775	78	125	0	0
NORFOLK	724957	26021	74175	3590	799132	29611	1828	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	280981	24501	4112	384	285093	24885	929	59	0	0
SAN DIEGO	351580	92276	8588	170	360168	92446	269	161	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	2147300	-	150000	-	2297300	-	1000	-	0	-
VALLEJO	277866	42770	5071	296	282937	43066	913	50	0	0
TOTALS	3963616	279228	244886	8555	4208502	287783	5017	395	0	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	44869	2260	47129	0	0
NORFOLK	58555	1200	59755	0	0
TOTALS	103424	3460	106884	0	0

In addition to the above, the Norfolk office inspected other products, including fresh, cured and smoked meats, dairy and bakery products, ice cream and sea foods, in the following amounts:

	Navy	Marines
Passed	58995 lbs.	361 lbs.
Rejected	185	0
TOTAL	59181	361

The Vallejo office also inspected 39,015 lbs. of bread; passed 38,765, and rejected 250 lbs. In addition 525 lbs. of rolls for the Navy were examined.

The New York office also inspected products for The United States Lines and the Munson Line as follows:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
United States Lines	460,606	284,697	20,108
Munson Line	69,935	24,360	2,028
TOTALS	530,541	309,057	22,136

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. CONFERENCES OF INSPECTORS.

The conferences regarding the citrus grades and their relation to the inspection of these fruits in Florida will be held as follows:-

OCT. 20 & 21 in Washington office. Besides the local officials, those to attend this conference include J. J. Gardner, of Martinsburg, W.Va., office; H. H. Henderson, of Norfolk, Va., and S.F. Shreve and W. E. Harrison, of Baltimore.

OCT. 22 & 23, at New York. In addition to the New York City inspectors, the offices at Philadelphia, New Haven and Boston will be represented here.

OCT. 24 & 25 at Pittsburgh. This gathering will include Pittsburgh inspectors and representatives from Buffalo, Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati.

OCT. 27 & 28 at Chicago, to be comprised of Chicago staff and inspectors from Detroit, Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

OCT. 29 & 30 at St. Louis. This meeting will be made up of inspectors in St. Louis and those from Indianapolis, Memphis and Kansas City.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., who will attend all of these gatherings, will then proceed to Florida, via New Orleans, but it has not yet been decided whether a conference of near-by inspectors will be held at New Orleans.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

E. E. Conklin, Jr., is expected to arrive on Monday from Florida, where he has been gathering samples of citrus fruits for demonstration purposes at the citrus grade conferences of inspectors. These conferences will be held at various central points during the next two weeks, as outlined on ~~other~~ ^{this} page of this Division Letter.

Mr. Robb, Mr. Samson and Dr. D. H. Rose (B.P.I.) also expect to attend the inspectors' conferences, to be held at New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago and St. Louis. These men probably will leave Washington on Tuesday evening.

Mr. Stillwell will leave Monday night for a northern trip in the interest of the market news service. He expects to confer with market reporters and members of the trade in Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Presque Isle and Rochester. On his return trip, Mr. Stillwell may also visit the offices at Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Baltimore. He will be absent about two weeks. Tuesday and Wednesday will be spent in Philadelphia and the remainder of the week in New York.

R. R. Pailthorp returned some days ago from his short trip through the Virginia apple sections, and plans to leave again on Monday for a similar investigational trip which may take him to Moorestown and Trenton, N.J.; New York City, Albany and Rochester, N.Y.; Harrisburg and Biglerville, Pa. Mr. Wilcox, of the Photographic Section, will accompany Mr. Pailthorp, to secure a number of pictures of operations in various apple-shipping districts. Particular attention will be given on this trip to the commercial grading and packing of apples, and to all phases of the export trade.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. W. Davis will leave shortly on an investigational trip through the northern celery regions. He will study the packing of this product, with a view to recommending specifications for a standard celery crate or crates. Mr. Davis' itinerary permits stops at Kalamazoo and other points in Michigan; at Chicago, Cleveland, Williamson, N.Y., and other shipping points in New York State.

Leaving Washington on Sunday afternoon, J. W. Strowbridge, of Mr. Samson's section, will go to Chicago for the purpose of abstracting data on California citrus fruit shipments and distribution from the records of the S.F.R.D. and the P.F.E. companies. Mr. Strowbridge may be absent several weeks.

G. B. Fiske left on Tuesday night for Rochester, N.Y. He will make a study of the fruit and vegetable shipping districts in the western part of New York, in order to obtain detailed data and background material for the preparation of bulletins on the marketing of these crops.

Quite a number of the market news offices were closed all or part of Monday, October 13, as Columbus Day was observed as a local holiday in those cities.

W. J. Bertush, of the Detroit office, assisted in Cleveland recently and has again returned to that city to help S. N. Green with the market news work and inspections during the absence of Ray C. Bish, who is engaged on shipping-point inspections of Ohio onions.

C. H. Behnke stopped at the Washington office on Tuesday and Wednesday, en route from New York City to Florida. He will drive one of the inspection automobiles from Macon, Ga., to Miami, Fla., stopping for a day at Orlando. Miami will be Mr. Behnke's present headquarters on shipping-point inspection work.

W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore market news office, was a visitor to the Washington office last Monday. It was a local holiday in Baltimore.

J. A. Marks expects to leave Pittsburgh within a few days and drive by automobile to Florida, where he also will help with inspections this season.

M. L. Henry left New York City on Wednesday night for Pittsburgh. He will take up the work which has been handled by Mr. Marks, remaining in Pittsburgh until the return of J. J. Gardner about the end of next week.

J. W. Howard, who has been assisting in Minneapolis, proceeded to New Orleans on Thursday, where he will help C. R. Newton with inspection work for indefinite period.

In order to give R. M. Ferguson and R. M. Peterson opportunity to complete their annual leave, G. W. Winfrey has gone from the Chicago office to Minneapolis, succeeding J. W. Howard at that point.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. A. Powell, formerly supervising inspector in the Eagle district of Colorado, has been with the California Inspection Service since July 1, but did not again become a cooperative employee in this Bureau until September 1. Mr. Powell's present address is 15 Friedberger Blodgett Building, Lodi, Calif. His name and address should have appeared with the list of California cooperative employees, published in the D.L. for October 3.

The cooperative market news service at Jacksonville, Fla., will be resumed on Monday, October 20, with the re-installation of the leased wire from Atlanta, Ga., to Jacksonville.

In connection with the brief citrus-fruit reports to be issued at the Orlando, Fla., field station, starting next Monday, it is of interest to note that the Fruitman's Club, Orlando, has subscribed \$1,000 in support of this service and that the State Marketing Bureau also will cooperate by bearing the expense of part of the telegraphic relays from Jacksonville to Orlando.

News from the Washington office includes the following: After a six-months' furlough, Mrs. Ethel A. Mitchell expects to return to duty this Saturday and probably will assist Miss Mary Hall with statistical work. Mrs. Alice M. Berger, formerly connected with the Domestic Wool Section, has been reinstated after several months' absence, and is now on Mr. Clay's stencil-cutting force. Miss Dena Hammer was called to her home at Kimball, S. Dak., on account of the critical illness of her mother. Miss Polly Heitman, employed until recently in the Los Angeles office but now on furlough in the East, has been a visitor among former associates in the Washington office. The F. & V. ladies' bowling team won two out of three games from the Inter-division team and the men's team beat the Cotton Division 3-0 Tuesday evening.

John D. Snow, of the Denver office, visited the Alliance potato district in western Nebraska over the last week-end, and this week-end will make a similar trip to the Greeley section of Colorado.

J. H. Cain, clerk-typist in the Atlanta office, was struck by an automobile last Saturday and painfully but not seriously injured.

Articles or interviews by some of our field men, published in recent issues of trade papers, are as follows: The New York Produce News for October 11 carried a half-column interview with H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, on the great possibilities of radio-telephony in the distribution of market news. The New York Packer of the same date devoted three-quarters of a column to statements by C. W. Hauck, E. J. Powell and C. E. Linwood, all at Fresno, on the raisining of grapes, etc. The Spokane office was represented by a whole-column article on the northwestern apple situation.

The Fruitman's Guide (New York City) for October 4 and 11, respectively, contained extensive articles by A. E. Prugh on western New York peaches and cabbage. These are the same articles which will appear in Crops and Markets; in fact, the peach story has already been printed in Crops and Markets for October 11. Mr. Prugh also increased the circulation of this material by mimeographing parts or all of it in connection with his daily market reports.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 43

October 24, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. GOOD QUALITY POTATOES IN MAINE.

Under date of October 16, F. E. Rutland, in charge of the Presque Isle field station, sent the following report:-

"Weather during early October was very favorable for harvesting potatoes in the Aroostook section of Maine, and it was estimated that about 80% of the crop had been dug and either stored or shipped. If this is a fact, it means that about 50% of the total had been harvested between October 4 and 16, which is a record for Maine.

"Low prices prevailing throughout the digging season caused a larger portion of the early harvest to go to storage, and practically all available space has been filled. There was a rather acute shortage of storage space in mid-October. Most of the crop remaining to be gathered must be shipped as it is dug. There is also a considerable quantity of potatoes in open storage that must be moved before cold weather comes. This will tend to make shipments for the last half of the month heavier than would ordinarily be the case.

"Quality of the potatoes throughout the district is excellent. The stock is clean and remarkably free from disease. This is due to the more extensive use of certified seed and more careful treatment of growing fields by the farmers. In addition, the dry weather has helped to keep stock free from dirt and this has improved the general appearance. Green Mountains, as usual, were of slightly better quality than Irish Cobblers. The rather late killing-frost permitted all of the Green Mountain variety to grow to a nice size, but, contrary to expectations, there was only a small quantity of overgrown potatoes.

"Yields generally have been very satisfactory, but no record-breaking fields have been reported. No figures are as yet available as to the probable average yield. Many growers and dealers claim, however, that the average will be considerably greater than last year.

"There is some complaint about the unusually small demand for certified potato seed for spring planting in the southern States. Large dealers claim that only 50% as many orders have been confirmed to date this season as last year. They believe that buyers in Virginia and Florida are either unable or unwilling to put up guarantees or to purchase for cash. Low prices received for this year's crop and failure of growers in the southern States to make money this season are assigned as reasons for the inactive seed market.

"Local factors do not now interpret this to mean a curtailment of acreage in the South, nor do they believe that purchases are being made to any great extent from competing seed sections. Large quantities of certified stock are being stored in anticipation of an increased demand later in the season. Warehouse men claim that the amount of certified seed stored to date is somewhat greater than usual. This would indicate that, even though the southern potato districts do delay purchasing supplies, there will be no shortage of seed stock."

2a. AROUSING INTEREST IN ENGLISH APPLES.

In view of the heavy exports of American apples to England, the following item will be of interest. It is part of a clipping from the October 10 issue of the London "Daily Telegraph," received through Agricultural Commissioner Edward A. Foley, in London. The city of Hereford, which is mentioned prominently, is a place of about 25,000 population in southwest England, and was founded early in the 7th century:-

"Fruit shows are the order of the day, the object of all, except the Imperial show at Birmingham on the 24th, being entirely in the interest of home produce. The message of these displays is, "Eat more fruit, with preference for home or Empire grown." The fine fruit exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society's show in London this week demonstrated what can be done at home; the Birmingham show will indicate the possibilities of Empire and will, no doubt, prove a great attraction to the trade and the public, but growers and the industry are keenly interested in a departure new to this country, though no novelty in fruit-growing areas of the Continent.

Hereford Festival.

"At the close of this month Hereford will inaugurate an apple festival, towards the success of which the municipal authorities are combining with the fruit and cider industries, the women's institutes, the County Agricultural Committee, and others concerned. Arrangements are being completed to make the first apple festival a red-letter day in the history of the ancient city. One of the many attractions will be a carnival pageant, illustrating the apple through the ages, from the Garden of Eden to the latest methods of packing and grading for market. There will be competitions for retailers and the public, apples will be on sale everywhere for the benefit of the hospital, and the event will conclude with a fancy dress ball, at which the apple will be the principal ornament in the array of costumes. The central effort will be a show in the Shire Hall, at which a leading feature will be that vital matter in successful sales, - grading and packing, - one which the industry is beginning to appreciate after persisting in turning deaf ears and closed eyes so long to the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture, and to the results obtained by foreign and Dominions producers on our markets. The Pershore district growers have been pioneers in this direction, and it is gratifying to see the movement extending."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 18:

- Page 246 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in weekly review.
- 247 - Northwestern Apple Shipments Increase, - by G.E. Prince.
- Apple Season Opening in Colorado, - by R. H. Lamb.
- Tomatoes Moving from Southern California, - by H.A. Harris.
- Idaho Growers Holding Late Potatoes, - by G. D. Clark.
- Colorado Vegetables in Demand, - by John D. Snow.
- 252 - Distribution of Colorado peach shipments. (Filler, based on review of season by R. H. Lamb).
- 256 - Prices of American Apples in British Markets, week ending Oct. 11.

NOTE:- If your office does not receive "Crops and Markets" regularly, please advise the Washington office promptly.

4a. CHANGES SUGGESTED IN GEORGIA PEACH-MARKETING PRACTICES.

The 1924 season was a difficult one for the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, Macon, Ga., and proved unprofitable to many growers, according to a statement of the president received by our Division of Agricultural Cooperation. An unusually large crop brought many problems, the estimated production being 22,000 cars, compared with a normal production of 7,000 or 8,000 cars in previous years. The number of cars shipped by all agencies was 13,500. It is stated that the losses were far less than they would have been without the existence of the Exchange, which was "the only stabilizing influence that existed, but was not capacitated to handle the movement which developed in July." The belief is also expressed that "it is doubtful if such a movement of peaches as that of July can ever be handled as fresh fruit."

A fatal mistake was made in shipping much of the fruit on consignment, contrary to the advice of the sales agents but at the insistent demand of the growers.

Among measures taken by the Exchange to aid the industry was the employment of a research chemist to develop uses for peaches other than as fresh fruit. A by-product was produced which is believed to have good possibilities, and it is hoped to extend the research work. A campaign was conducted to teach the farmers the value of thinning peaches, also a campaign for better packing and Government inspection. The improvements in packing alone were sufficient to justify the existence of the association. The president believes that the handling at point of origin must be perfected and surrounded with such safeguards as will protect it from imposition by questionable shippers.

In discussing the prospects for the future, the president considers the large plantings soon to come into bearing and the larger crops to be handled, and makes some suggestions. Among other things he recommends that as rapidly as possible the commercial grades of peaches shall be reduced to three varieties: Early Rose, Hiley, and Elberta, and that other trees be pulled out; that a State law shall be enacted, giving some department the power to adopt standard grades and packs and to enforce inspection at point of origin; that the contract shall be changed and that each local unit shall be reorganized under a charter, making each locality practically independent and in full charge of marketing its own fruit; that additional plants be built for the manufacture of by-products; and that community houses be re-financed.

A committee of growers, appointed by the board of directors, made a report under date of September 30, regarding changes which it was believed should be made in the by-laws. The committee recommended that growers be permitted to make orchard sales or f.o.b. sales, and that they be permitted to indicate that the portion of the crop delivered to the Exchange be consigned instead of sold f.o.b. The committee further recommended that the Exchange be paid 4% on f.o.b. sales and orchard sales made by growers, and that the Exchange deduct 10% of the gross sale price of fruit forwarded on consignment.

It was suggested by the committee that the Georgia peach industry urge Federal legislation, requiring all receivers of fruits and vegetables to be under Federal license.

5a. IMPORTANCE OF F. & V. INDUSTRY IN NEW YORK STATE.

The Rochester office recently issued a two-page report on the above subject, which is full of interesting facts. It emphasizes the great importance of fruits and vegetables in New York and compares the State shipments with those for the United States. New York ships about 1/10 of the total. Distribution is shown by a map, and there is also a table of unloads.

6a. \$13,000,000 TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO RAISIN GROWERS.

In connection with the studies now being made by C. W. Hauck, at Fresno, the following information, recently received by the Division of Agricultural Cooperation, is of special interest:-

"The raisin industry of California has passed its crisis with success," announces the president of the Sun-Maid Raisin Growers of California, Fresno, Calif. He further states that the association has worked out the problem of overproduction by increasing the consumption from 140,000 tons to 200,000 tons and by converting the remaining 100,000 tons into other products.

August shipments of Sun-Maid raisins amounted to 1,102 carloads, compared with 357 carloads for August of last year. The exports for August were 4,896 tons, compared with 2,795 tons for the same month last year. Total sales in Oriental countries for the first eight months of 1924 were 222,588 cases, against 108,165 cases for the first eight months of 1923.

Payments to members, authorized at the August meeting of the board of directors, will amount to approximately \$13,000,000. An additional half-cent on the 1923 crop will amount to about \$2,500,000; an advance of two cents per pound on 1924 raisins will total more than \$10,000,000; and the first annual dividend on the preferred stock of the association will amount to \$350,000, a large portion of which will go to members.

On account of the improved condition of the industry, better arrangements for financing were possible, and it is anticipated that a saving of \$75,000 in interest charges will result. Funds will be secured through a syndicate of California banks and through the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank.

A bonus of \$10 a ton is offered to growers who complete their deliveries before November 10. This will make the advance amount to two and one-half cents for raisins delivered in time to reach the holiday trade.

Forty-nine delivery stations are operating, 39 of which are in continuous operation, 2 only by appointment, and the remainder from one to five days a week. The date-delivery system is used. Each grower arranges for his appointments for delivery. No fruit is received unless previous appointments have been made, and if a grower is late his appointment is cancelled. This method saves the growers much time and makes possible the handling of larger quantities of fruit at the plants.

It was pointed out by President Ralph P. Merritt, at a recent meeting of the board of directors, that, if the association had but four packing houses strategically located, its manufacturing activities could be handled with an investment of but \$750,000 in packing materials instead of the \$1,800,000 required by the 14 existing plants. He further stated that the saving in interest, were the smaller investment possible, would amount to \$65,000 annually.

7a. NEW BULLETIN ON STANDARD BASKETS.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1434, entitled "Standard Baskets for Fruits and Vegetables," has just come from the press. This is a revision of the basket portion of F. B. No. 1196. Joint authors are H. A. Spilman and F. P. Downing. The new bulletin contains 18 pages and is admirably illustrated with 14 half-tone cuts. The last two pages of the bulletin give a list of States which have standardized various types of containers and the title and address of the enforcing official.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. TELEGRAPHIC REMINDERS DISCONTINUED FOR HONEY AND BEESWAX REPORTS.

This item applies to the following market stations: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles:

Heretofore, it has been the practice to send out telegraphic reminders of the semi-monthly honey and beeswax wires a day or two before they are due. It should not be necessary to place these reminders on the wire to secure these reports on time, and no further wires of this sort will be sent. All market stations have desk pads, on which the days for honey and beeswax reports can be marked in advance for a year, if necessary.

Honey reports are published on the 1st and 15th of each month. The market wires are due on the 14th and last days of the month, or on the days immediately preceding if the regular reporting dates fall on a holiday or Sunday. In the summer at least, it may seem best to secure the honey report on Fridays instead of Saturdays, in order to find more dealers in their offices. The quotations and conditions always should represent the market of the day the report is filed, so we can properly date the reports on the published bulletin.

Please make the necessary entries on your desk calendar pad immediately upon receipt of this Division Letter. Then the reporting days will not be overlooked.

2b. PEAR GROWERS PAID PROMPTLY.

According to reports received by our Division of Agricultural Cooperation, higher average prices than usual for Bartlett pears are reported by the California Pear Growers' Association, San Francisco, Calif. Up to September 12 the number of cars shipped was 5,142, which was about the same as in 1922, and 82% as many as in 1923 when 6,265 cars had been shipped to the same date. Final computations on prices have not been completed, but it is believed the average for Bartlett pears will be around \$85 per ton, compared with \$67 in 1918, \$95 in 1919, \$115 in 1920, \$70 in 1921, \$46 in 1922, and \$51 in 1923. In considering the reasons for the improved prices this season, the factor of prompt transportation is given first place. Because shipments were not delayed they arrived in good order. The season began earlier than ever before and there was no "peak" in the market. Distribution was better than ever before, many carlots going to the smaller markets, thus preventing gluts in the larger cities. More uniform packing is given credit for a part of the improvement, and advertising is also considered a factor.

A first payment on growers' canning-pear accounts was made on or about August 5, amounting to \$10 a ton; a second payment of 50% of the unpaid balance was made about August 20; on September 1 the growers were paid 50% of the remainder; and on September 15 they were paid 75% of the remaining balance; making a total of about 95% of the entire amount within 75 days of the first delivery of pears and within 15 days of the delivery of the last lots.

3b. POTATO SITUATION IN WESTERN NEBRASKA.

John D. Snow, of the Denver office, wrote as follows in a letter of October 16:-

"On my recent trip to western Nebraska, I went first to Alliance. In talking with shippers there, I learned that the unusually dry season had greatly reduced the yield and that Triumphs would average about 50 bushels per acre. The acreage in the dry-land district has been considerably reduced this season, not only on table stock but also on certified seed. Mr. Morrill, in charge of the seed certification, advised that only 3,400 acres were applied for certification, compared with 5,800 acres last year. The old timers stated that it was the driest season in 20 years.

"Around Alliance and Hemingford most of the fields had been dug by October 11, but Marsland was about two weeks late and not yet dug. There is considerable scab on the stock in this dry-land district, and, with the possible exception of the stock raised around Hemingford, it is running too small for table use but is good seed size. There is very little Fusarium this season. Because of the small size and absence of Fusarium, growers and shippers are planning to sell as much of the stock for seed as possible. With the production of certified seed about half that of last year, it seems probable that there will be a good outlet for the uncertified stock as seed. Practically nothing is being shipped from this dry-land district now, and I am in a quandary about quoting a table-stock market for the Hemingford-Alliance district. It is certain nothing will be shipped for table use that can be sold as seed, and at the present table-stock prices there will be very little movement. As I stated, Hemingford claims to have some good-size potatoes which will move as table stock.

"It is interesting to note that Early Ohios, both for seed and table use are rapidly losing importance in the Hemingford-Alliance district, and this season probably 90% of the acreage is in Triumphs.

"Indian labor has been very plentiful during the digging and, where last year the pay was \$4.00 a day, laborers were obtained this season at \$3.00 a day.

"Another interesting development is the handling of certified seed. Heretofore, the State has maintained a corps of inspectors and set the standard for certified stock. This season an organization called the Nebraska Certified Potato Growers' Association has been formed. This Association hires the field and bin inspectors for certification and pays them. About their only connection with the State is that they use the State's standard for certified seed. Not only is the Association doing the certifying, but it is also doing the selling. In other words, if a man wanted his seed certified, he would have to join the Association and allow his seed to be sold through ^{that} organization. One-year contracts are in force. The manager believes prospects are good for the Nebraska certified seed market, and the Association is now quoting \$2.20 per cwt. on Nebraska certified Bliss Triumphs for October shipment. The prices for shipment in November is \$2.35, and in December \$2.50. The grower, who so desires, can set a higher price on his seed and have it held for that price. The first sale of certified seed was made the day I was there, and three cars of Triumphs for December shipment sold at \$3.20 f.o.b.

(Continued on next page)

"From Alliance I went to Scottsbluff, Mitchell and Morrill, the irrigated district. Shippers in that district were of the opinion that the acreage had been decreased about 20%. However, the yield is good this year and will nearly make up for the decrease in plantings. About three-fourths of the acreage is planted to Triumphs and the remainder is mostly in Russet Rurals, with some Pearls, New York Rurals, Kings, Cobblers, and Ohios. The Cobblers and Ohios have all been shipped. Yield on Triumphs has been reported as high as 400 bushels per acre, but it is probable that 175 to 200 bushels, field run, is the average yield. Russet Rurals, which usually give the highest yield in this district, probably will not be over 175 bushels per acre, field run. The Kings are yielding about 200 bushels per acre. Much of the acreage was planted late this season. The usual planting date has been from May 25 to June 10, but this season the fields were planted from June 5 to July 4, with most stock being put in between June 10 and 20. This late planting was made in an attempt to get away from the early blight, which badly affected the stock last season.

"Triumphs are running very large in size, with the Russets somewhat smaller than usual. Because of the late planting, the Triumphs now being shipped looked very immature and are badly feathered in many cases. The large Triumphs show many growth cracks, which are very narrow, only about one-fourth inch deep, and are not healed. Just what will develop while this kind of stock is being shipped from the field is a matter of speculation.

"The help has been plentiful during the digging season at \$3.00 per day and board, most of the laborers being drifters who come in during the harvest season.

"The Central Nebraska Potato Association operated in a limited way in the Scottsbluff-Morrill district last season, but this year seems to have secured a strong foot-hold, especially at Morrill, the heavy shipping point. Where they had 40 members at that point last year, they have 50 this season. The Association is incorporated. It does not pool the crops of members but sells for \$30 a car, including the brokerage. Out of the Association fund, \$100 per car is advanced to the grower."

4b. REVIEW OF COLORADO PEACH SEASON.

Before leaving the Grand Junction office, R. H. Lamb issued a six-page review of the 1924 peach season in western Colorado. It is a preliminary report but gives a complete list of destinations of 1,774 cars of peaches that were shipped to September 27. Cars went to at least 26 States and Canada. A daily tabulation of receipts and prices is presented for the Kansas City, St. Louis, Omaha, Chicago, Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Denver markets. Brief summaries are added for Cincinnati and Detroit. If copies of this review are desired, they should be requested immediately from R. L. Sutton, at Grand Junction, for that station will close by November 1.

5b. REVIEWS OF COLORADO LETTUCE AND CABBAGE SEASONS.

On the reverse side of his last regular report on lettuce and cabbage, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, published very brief but comprehensive reviews of the season. They summarize the principal facts in a clear manner.

6b. BOX PACKING OF APPLES TRIED IN WISCONSIN.

Apple growers of Wisconsin are experimenting again this year in packing their fruit in boxes for eastern trade. Last year, B. B. Jones, Standardization and Inspection Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Markets, Madison, urged the growers to try box packing. This method of packing had never been attempted in Wisconsin before. He instructed two packers in the work and helped them pack two carloads of boxed stock which was sold in New York City for prices that brought the growers much more money than stock marketed in barrels and baskets.

On account of the previous year's success, the growers' cooperative association at Sturgeon Bay decided to enlarge the box packing business and secured two expert packers from Yakima, Wash., who are now putting up about 20 carloads of choice fruit. The Department of Markets, with the assistance of these two western packers, is conducting packing schools, so local packers can learn the work and take care of it in the future. The State marketing officials are of the opinion that box packing has come to stay and that the quantity of fruit so packed will increase each year.

7b. FURTHER ADAPTATIONS OF THE WEEKLY REVIEW.

A. E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, has adopted a labor-saving and time-saving method of utilizing the price tables, issued with the weekly review from Washington office. He avoids the cutting of vertical lines which are almost essential in typing a table with narrow columns and also avoids foot-notes and the numerous foot-note reference marks. Below is a sample of his table:

CARLOT PRICES AT SHIPPING POINTS (compared with last year)

	<u>Oct. 11</u>	<u>Year Ago</u>
POTATOES: Presque Isle, Me., Green Mtns., 100 lbs. bulk	55-60¢	\$1.20
Waupaca, Wis., round whites, sacked per 100 lbs.	65-75¢	95¢
(etc. for other sections and other crops)		

WEEKLY CARLOT ARRIVALS AND PRICES TO JOBBERS

	<u>Week's arrivals</u>	<u>Price Oct. 11</u>	<u>Price Year Ago</u>
POTATOES: New York City, Me. Green Mtns., 100 lbs. 346		\$1.25-1.30	\$1.85-2.00
Chicago, northern rd. whites, C/L, 100 lbs. 750		70-80¢	1.00-1.25
(etc. for other markets and other crops)			

Immediately upon receipt of the weekly mimeographed Summary of Carlot Shipments from Washington, Mr. Prugh inserts at the top of that day's market reports a comparative summary of New York shipments and United States shipments for each crop of interest to western New York. Crop names are used as column headings across the top of the sheet, and the usual Carlot Summary column headings appear in the left margin as line designations, the first line showing New York totals and the next line U. S. totals, etc.

The Rochester office has been issuing a daily report on seven different products. Vegetables are published on the two sides of one sheet, and the fruit reports on a separate sheet. Separate reports are prepared for Special Radio and Newspaper Release. The first of these summarizes the western New York f.o.b. market on each of the leading products, followed by destinations of the preceding day's shipments, and then by total United States (and State) shipments of the several fruits and vegetables. The second radio and press release gives brief city market reports for each product, about five markets for each line.

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes Pears* Pears* Peaches* Apples	Aug. 4 Aug. 7 Sept. 16 Aug. 25 Sept. 22	Oct. 31 Sept. 6* Oct. 4* Sept. 22* Oct. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** Room 1, Commercial Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears* Potatoes Onions Grapes Peaches*	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 22 Sept. 23	Oct. 25 Oct. 13* Oct. 25 Oct. 25 Oct. 25 Oct. 13*
PRESQUE ISLE, M.E. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches* Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 1 Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 13* Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 9, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31
ORLANDO, FLA.** 311 Smith Bldg.	920	W. H. Hall	CitrusFrt.	Oct. 21	Apr. 15

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 27 Oct. 27 Oct. 27	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31
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** State Department Cooperating.

*Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. H. Lamb - in Chicago office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. ONION INSPECTIONS IN NORTHWESTERN OHIO.

In a letter of October 16, written from Kenton, Ohio, Ray C. Bish tells of the onion situation in the section where he has been conducting inspections:-

"It is estimated by some of the most important factors in the deal that the yield will be as large as, and probably larger than, last year's. There are about 3,600 acres in onions in this marsh, and it is believed the average yield will be around 500 bushels to the acre, many fields of course doing better than this and some fields a little less. Between 200 and 300 acres of the 3,600 were resown, on account of the first planting being blown out by the wind. Some of these onions have matured in good shape, while in other fields quite a few are small and of only fair quality. Thrips infested certain fields, but came too late to do any material damage to the crop.

"Quality of the onions generally has been good, but in some fields it has been necessary to sort out a considerable amount of splits and bottle-necks. The size has been good, averaging generally around 1 3/4 to 2 1/2 inches and in some places 2 to 2 1/2 inches. There has been only a slight amount of rot thus far this season, some of the splits being wet and showing the start of decay around the neck of the onion, but the growers tell me that the percentage of rot is comparatively small.

"The crop is probably two-thirds to three-fourths harvested, but there are large quantities of onions which have as yet never changed hands. Speculative buying in this district has been limited thus far. Some Indiana people have come down and picked up a few cars and are shipping them to their own storage houses in Indiana, with the expectation of releasing them later in the season at a profit. One peculiar circumstance I have noticed in connection with this is that a number of shipments have been loaded in bulk in box cars.

"According to my understanding, the highest prices paid to growers were several weeks ago, when a few cars changed hands at 75¢ to 80¢ per bushel, but the present schedule is around 1¢ per pound or 56¢ per bushel for the best quality stock, and some buyers are now looking for 50¢ onions.

"Most inspections to date have been made for the firm of W.S. Snyder and Son, but recently inspections have been made for Jones & Bowers, Dell Ellis, R.B. Hindman, Merlin McDorman, and M.W. Lorch, a Chicago firm. Those who have taken advantage of the service seem to be quite enthusiastic, especially the firm of Snyder & Son who desire that it be continued throughout a portion of the winter. The service thus far has been a straight Federal proposition, but it is hoped that the State of Ohio may be able to cooperate to some extent."

2c. APPLE-GRADING DEMONSTRATION CAR USED IN COLORADO.

In connection with the apple-grading demonstration car which has been touring the commercial fruit districts of Colorado, E. T. McKune, in charge of Federal-State inspections, arranged an exhibit of two types of northwestern apples now moving into terminal markets. Extra Fancy and "C" grades were shown, to illustrate the competition that must be met. Another exhibit showed the unwrapped tier of the same variety of apples as sent to market from Colorado. The face-and-fill pack, as well as jumble pack, were also shown.

3c. NAVY INSPECTIONS AT BOSTON.

The September report of T. J. Sullivan, B.A.I. Inspector at Boston, was omitted from the monthly report on page 477 of the last Division Letter. The figures for Boston and the corrected totals for all seven Naval stations are given below. On page 477 write a footnote: "See supplementary report on page 491."

ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS, SEPTEMBER, 1924.

Station	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruit and Vegetables PASSED		Fruit and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with specifications		Items billed short weight	
	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON.	349278		3522		352800		0		288	
		12085		36		12121		0		0
Corrected totals for the seven stations	4312894		248408		4561302		5017		288	
		291313		8591		299904		395		0

4c. INTERESTING NEWS OF UTAH INSPECTIONS.

Writing from Salt Lake City on October 16, F. J. Baehler, supervising inspector, tells of the development of shipping-point work in that State:-

"I am pleased to report that the work here is progressing satisfactorily and, judging by present indications, the total inspections for the year will exceed those of last year. Both shippers and growers commend the service highly and State officials express great satisfaction with the results. During the last week shipments have fallen off considerably and it is probable that there will be no heavy movement after this month. At present, we are inspecting apples mostly, but also a few cars of onions and potatoes. Practically all of the Spanish onions are disposed of, and about all of the early potatoes (Cobblers and Triumphs), but there will be some shipments of late stock this month. We have lined up a deal in Morgan County, back in the hills east of Ogden, with the prospect of 25 cars of cabbage, 20 cars of Danver onions, and some potatoes. We intend to have this work looked after by the Ogden inspectors. Lettuce and celery will be loaded in Davis and Weber counties the latter part of this month.

"At American Fork, in Utah County, a new departure has been undertaken, the growing of cauliflower in carload quantities. One grower has 40 acres of this and expects to ship 10 cars. The first car was loaded Tuesday. This is the Snowball variety and the quality is very good. In order to pack No. 1 grade, however, it was necessary to do considerable culling on account of worm injury and discolored flowers. The grower is making every effort to put out the best pack possible, and has instructed his packers to discard every head which is questionable. The pack is excellent and is on a par with that of California. The standard flat crate is used. Cars will be loaded under the latest system of placing the crates with the stems up, a layer of ice over the top of the load, and ice in the interstices between the crates in the lower layers. This system will be followed at least until the weather becomes cold. The crop will be handled by the Ryan Fruit Co. of Salt Lake, and the

first car was billed to Kansas City. The district where this cauliflower is grown is low-lying and would be admirable for truck crops. If the deal proves successful this year, the acreage will be greatly increased next season and it is the intention to try out other truck crops in the vicinity.

"The apple crop is far below normal. Shipments of Jonathans will be completed within a few days, but up to this time the movement of the later varieties has been very light. Nearly all are put out either as Combination or Orchard Run. Wormy stock presents the greatest difficulty in grading. On account of the unusually dry season, codling moth was present to a far greater extent than in former seasons. The indications are that frequently the worms entered the calyx during the latter part of the growing period and, in many instances, it is difficult to detect the injury. Since the State laws restrict the sale of wormy fruit to licensed canneries only, the inspectors have been instructed to hold the amount of such to the lowest possible minimum. It is not the intention to permit the full amount of tolerance in this respect, and we are endeavoring to hold the amount of such within 2%. During the early part of the season, a few cars were moved which showed 5% of open worm holes, but since then the inspectors were instructed that in view of the States laws, any car showing that amount should be held and notice given the shipper to resort the load. In the last issue of the News Letter I note that in Washington they have this same difficulty. While every effort is being made to cull out the wormy stock, I am reasonably certain that further injury will occur after the fruit is packed, due to continued hatching of the worms. A reinspection of one car in Los Angeles indicated that this was the case; therefore, this was considered as a matter of condition and the shipping-point inspection was sustained. The Utah shippers are developing considerable trade in California, and a large percentage of the apple shipments is sold there. Consequently, it is particularly desired that no shipment be permitted which will not comply with the quarantine regulations of that State.

"Two packing houses were built this season in Utah County. These are equipped with Cutler grading machines, and this is certainly a step in the right direction. Several other houses are in prospect for next season. If the movement continues, this State eventually will be on the map as an apple producing center. The Pleasant Grove Assn. intends to put out a wrapped pack next season, and it is to be hoped that improved methods will be in practice in other districts.

"As the inspection service is now on a solid foundation here, Commissioner Hinckley has decided that a fee should be charged on the part of the State. During the forthcoming winter, action will be taken to that end and I am confident that this will not tend to reduce the number of requests for service to any appreciable extent."

P. D. RUPERT,
Asst. Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

R. C. Butner is expected to return to Chicago from California today.

W. J. Bertush will handle work in Detroit next Monday and Tuesday, while G. C. Bayley attends the Chicago conference. Mr. Bertush will then return to Cleveland, to assist with the work in that office.

Announcement has been received of the birth of a daughter in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ireland on October 10. Mrs. Ireland is head clerk of the Portland office, but now on three months' furlough. Before going to Portland in 1923, Mrs. Ireland was employed in the Washington office.

Neal D. Sanborn can again be reached through the Denver office. Since completing cantaloupe inspections, Mr. Sanborn is working on potatoes in the San Luis Valley, southern Colorado.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 44

October 31, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. CONSERVE SUPPLIES.

Employees, both in the Washington office and in the field, are requested to exercise rigid economy in the use of office supplies, that none may be wasted. The cost of such supplies in this Bureau is so great that it has attracted the attention of the Budget Bureau when considering our estimates for next year. Consequently, we must endeavor to reduce the cost of supplies, as well as other expenses, to a minimum. This requires the constant care of everyone.

2a. TRUCK CROP NEWS FROM TEXAS.

J. Austen Hunter, Market News Specialist at Austin, Texas, included the following information in a letter of October 21:-

"Things are beginning to liven-up down here in the trucking line. Spinach planting at Austin is well under way, and all indications point to 2,000 or more acres in this immediate section and quite an increase down the country where the deal was such a paying one last year. The breaking-up of some of the larger south-Texas ranches into small farms may also affect the acreage planted to truck this year, one San Antonio company, Flory and Albers, having purchased the 2,300 acres of the Byrd Cattle Company, of Carrizo Springs, 1,000 of which they plan to cultivate immediately. They are building a reservoir in the middle of the tract and are pumping water from Comanche Lake to this reservoir, for distribution throughout the area. Possibly not more than 200 acres of this 1,000 will go to spinach this year, but this as an independent increase is not unimportant. Weaver, of Chicago, will probably be the marketing agent for the firm."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 25:

- Page 262 - Special paragraphs on sweet potatoes in weekly review.
- 263 - Good Quality Potatoes in Maine, - by H. E. Rutland.
- 264 - Low Prices for New York Cabbage, - by A. E. Prugh.
 - Rapid Potato Movement from Colorado, - by John D. Snow.
- 272 - Potato Outlook in Thirteen Countries.
 - American Apple Prices on British Markets, week ending October 18.

4a. NEW BULLETIN ON PLUMS AND PRUNES.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1372, entitled: "Plum and Prune Growing in the Pacific States," has just come from the press. This is a well-illustrated and very complete bulletin of 60 pages. The author is C. F. Kinman, Pomologist, B.P.I. Copies can be had from the Office of Publications.

5a. NUT MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS DO BIG BUSINESS.

Sales of various kinds of nuts by cooperative associations in 1923, reported to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, amounted to \$14,937,463. The number of pounds sold was given as 82,191,233 and the membership of the associations reporting totaled 22,000. Walnuts led the list in volume of business with peanuts coming second, followed by almonds and pecans.

Association	: Year : : Formed :	: Number : : Members :	: Number : : Pounds :	: Value : : (1923 crop) :
	:	: (1924):	: (1923 crop) :	:
California Walnut Growers' Assn., Los Angeles	: 1912	: 4,000	: 39,753,800	: \$ 8,961,906
Santa Ana Valley Walnut Growers' Assn., Santa Ana, Calif.	: 1918	: 400	: 2,809,295	: 709,283
Los Nietos & Ranchito Walnut Assn., Rivera, Calif.	: 1889	: 175	: 1,448,285	: 294,760
Dundee Walnut Growers' Assn., Dundee, Oregon	: 1921	: 100	: 203,900	: 47,470
National Pecan Growers' Ex., Albany, Ga.	: 1918	: 604	: 1,150,000	: 276,025
Southern Pecan Growers' Coop. Assn., Albany Ga.	: 1923	: 60	: 200,000	: 75,000
Peanut Growers' Association, Norfolk, Va	: 1919	: 5,300	: 7,010,548	: 1,703,408
Georgia Peanut Growers' Coop. Assn., Albany, Ga	: 1923	: 8,000	: 15,716,000	: 1,033,879
California Almond Growers' Assn., San Francisco.	: 1910	: 3,359	: 13,896,405	: 1,835,732
Total	:	: 21,998	: 82,191,233	: \$14,937,463

The California Walnut Growers' Association is a federation of 39 local organizations. These locals are made up of from 12 to 350 walnut growers; and the value of the nuts handled by the associations in 1923 varied from \$60,000 to \$1,200,000.

The four walnut associations listed above reported handling walnuts of the 1923 crop to the value of \$10,013,419. Pecans to the value of \$351,025 were handled by the two associations reporting, and peanuts to the value of \$2,737,287 by the Virginia and Georgia peanut associations.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS.

A summary of the POTOMAC - SHENANDOAH - CUMBERLAND DISTRICT APPLE DEAL (Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland) Season of 1923, has been distributed during the past week. This 32-page report was prepared by F. H. Scruggs and is very complete. In addition to other statistics, the carlot shipments are shown by stations in the four States. Special material is presented on the export movement and the British market for apples.

The Los Angeles office recently issued a summary of the CALIFORNIA TOMATO DEAL, Season of 1923, by H. A. Harris. The cover page includes an outline map of California, with the county boundaries shown and the number of cars of tomatoes shipped from each county. A brief review is given of the f.o.b. prices and city markets, together with a table of shipments by stations and a table of unloads. Another interesting tabulation shows the average date of the first killing frost in various city markets, as California tomatoes are not in great demand until eastern homegrown supplies are cleaned up by the coming of frost.

2b. REPORT OF UNLOADS IN ATLANTA, GA.

T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, has issued a two-page report on fruit and vegetable unloads in that market for the period August, 1923, to July, 1924, inclusive. Unloads of 32 products are shown by months. The heaviest month was July, when 804 cars were received. Total unloads for the 12 months were 5,066 cars. Potatoes totaled 741, watermelons 674, oranges 647, and apples 560 cars. Although Atlanta is in sweet potato territory, only 35 carloads of sweets were received by rail. Florida furnished 1,237 cars, mostly oranges and grapefruit. Georgia supplied 1,076 cars of fruit and vegetables, mostly watermelons. California was third, with 530 cars.

3b. OCTOBER REVIEW OF APPLE SITUATION.

On October 27, the Rochester office issued a comprehensive review of the apple situation. The report covers two sides of a long sheet of mimeograph paper. Special attention is given to the situation in western New York, probable storage holdings, etc. A firm market is predicted in view of the rather light crop of winter varieties. Quotations from recent issues of "Crops and Markets" are given on the situation in the Potomac Valley and the Pacific Northwest. Statistical tables show the 1923-24 shipments from western New York by leading stations and by counties, together with the distribution to important States. Total U. S. shipments are given by months, and unload figures are presented for various large markets.

4b. ARRIVALS AND UNLOADS IN CHICAGO.

On page 464 of the Division Letter for October 10, special mention was made of the elaborate report of arrivals and unloads, prepared by the Chicago office. Copies of this report have now been mailed to all market and field stations of the News Service, and will be found valuable for reference purposes.

5b. POTATO SITUATION IN NORTHERN COLORADO.

In a letter of October 22, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, tells of his recent trip to the Greeley district:-

"On Saturday, October 18th, I visited Greeley and spent the day in talking with potato shippers and looking over the stock being loaded in the cars.

"The acreage in northern Colorado has been cut considerably this season. This was due largely to the low prices for the past several years and the fact that sugar beets are well adapted to that district and have brought very good prices.

"The potatoes are running larger than usual; in fact, some of them are very large. There is very little disease, worm tracks, and scab. However, the stock is immature and practically all of it feathered badly when dug. It appears that the growers and shippers, before storing potatoes, are allowing them to cure, and most of the stock seems to harden-up and probably will store all right.

"As you know, we have had a very dry summer, and, while there was enough water for irrigation purposes, the growers stopped irrigating earlier than usual. The potatoes were small about September 1st, but were maturing nicely, and then came several hard rains which started rapid growth. As a result, we have large potatoes but much of the larger stock shows growth cracks and hollow heart. Shippers stated it was their plan to cull out all this large stock, showing growth cracks, and believe by so doing the balance of the stock will be of very fine quality. I believe they are right about the quality being fine, but, with prices so low and the prospects of better prices so poor, I rather doubt that the potatoes will get the strict culling that shippers plan.

"Yield in the Greeley District is heavy; 200 sacks per acre is not uncommon, 150 sacks is rather common, and shippers are placing the average all the way from 100 to 150 sacks per acre. On October 18th about 75% of the acreage was dug.

"Rurals were planted on about 75% of the acreage this season, and the balance was in Kings, Pearls, Cobblers, Downings, and Bliss Triumphs. The Bliss Triumph acreage is being increased from year to year, and probably accounts for 12½% of the total this season. The Triumphs are grown for early shipment, and practically all of them have now moved to market, a large percentage being trucked to near-by towns. Some growers were fortunate this season in that they started the practice of using eight sacks of seed to the acre instead of seven sacks. This was done in an attempt to keep down the size of the potatoes and has been of considerable benefit.

"Shipments from northern Colorado are running very light at present, most of the stock moving in mixed cars with cabbage and onions, and, until the daily movement gets heavier, I will not attempt to quote the market."

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys.

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STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
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WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
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ORLANDO, FLA.** 311 Smith Bldg.	920	W. H. Hall	CitrusFrt	Oct. 21	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Nov. 3 Nov. 3 Nov. 3	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31

The following stations on date indicated:

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BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** Room 1, Commercial Blk.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples Pears Potatoes Onions Grapes Peaches	Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 22 Sept. 23	Oct. 31 Oct. 13 Oct. 31 Oct. 31 Oct. 31 Oct. 13
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 9, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 22	Oct. 31

** State Department Cooperating.

*Report closed continued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. L. Sutton and R. H. Lamb - in Chicago office.

F. H. Scruggs- Washington.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. NEWS OF FLORIDA INSPECTION WORK.

Shipping point inspection work is getting under way in Florida, and a Weekly News Letter for the inspectors is again being issued from the Orlando office. Monday is the regular date of publication. Letter No. 1 was distributed on October 20 and Letter No. 2 on October 27. The following notes of general interest are taken from the first two Letters:-

- A large and enthusiastic class is now in training at the Orlando Experiment Station. As their training is completed, these men will be sent to various points to take up the regular work of inspecting. (On October 20, a dozen men were listed as in training, and 17 additional were to report shortly thereafter. About 20 local inspectors had previously been given assignments).

- Reports from various sections are to the effect that roads were impassable at many points, on account of recent heavy rains, and in a few cases the inspection work was interfered with.

- The Florida Citrus Exchange has requested inspection on all fruit bearing the trade name, "Florida Citrus Exchange." This means that the inspections will not be confined to the Sealdsweet Brand.

- Robert Bier is still located with the State Marketing Bureau, at 204 St. James Bldg., Jacksonville. He recently made a trip to Orlando, to confer with supervising inspectors regarding the placement of new men.

- F. E. Hooper, in charge of the Winter Haven district, advises that inspection work has started at the following packing houses in his territory: Auburndale, Florence Villa, Lucerne Park, Eagle Lake, and Lake Alfred.

- G. A. DeHaven, supervising work in the Bradentown section, states that the houses in his district are all running about four cars per day.

2c. ADDITIONAL GRADE FOR CITRUS FRUITS.

Another grade has been added to the present grades on citrus fruits, and was published as follows in the Florida Weekly News Letter:-

U. S. FANCY GOLDEN.

U.S. Fancy Golden shall consist of citrus fruits of similar varietal characteristics (1) which are firm, mature, well formed, smooth, thin skinned, free from decay, cuts and bruises, and from damage (2) caused by dirt or other foreign materials, dryness, limb rubs, thorn scratches, scars, scale, scab, insects or mechanical or other means. Fruit of this grade may show not more than 75% of light or smooth discoloration.

3c. SEND CLEAR CARBON COPIES TO WASHINGTON.

The carbon copies of certificates which are sent to this office become a part of the permanent records, and when they are not plain it is impossible to file and catalogue them correctly. Please change carbon paper often and keep the poorest copy with the notes at shipping point or terminal market. Send a good, clear copy to Washington.

4c. ADDRESSES OF FEDERAL INSPECTORS IN FLORIDA.JACKSONVILLE: 204 St. James Bldg.

Robert Bier, Federal Supervising Inspector in Charge.

ORLANDO: 311 Smith Bldg.

Mail address - P. O. Box 188.

O. G. Strauss, Federal Supervising Inspector in charge Citrus.

N. C. Farnworth, Federal Supervising Inspector in charge Vegetables.

J. A. Marks (field assignment to be announced later)

E. E. Conklin, Jr., in charge of Standardization work.

BRADENTOWN: American Enterprise Bldg.

Mail address - P. O. Box 691.

Geo. A. DeHaven, Inspector in Charge.

CLEARWATER: mail address - P. O. Box 3231.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., Inspector in Charge.

MIAMI: 137 N. W. 23rd Street.

C. H. Behnke, Inspector in Charge.

TAMPA: 707 E. Washington Street.

G. R. Warren, Inspector in Charge.

WINTER HAVEN: Wehrhausen Bldg.

F. E. Hooper, Inspector in Charge.

P. D. RUPERT,

Asst. Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Samson returned on Thursday morning from the inspectors' conferences which he attended in various cities. He reports that very good results are being obtained by these meetings of inspectors.

Mr. Robb will go from St. Louis to the conference to be held at New Orleans this Friday and Saturday. There is a possibility also that he will visit the F. & V. offices in Texas before returning to Washington.

Mr. Stillwell will be at Presque Isle, Maine, from October 30 to November 3. Tuesday, he will be en route to Albany, N. Y., and on Thursday and Friday he expects to be at the Rochester office.

Edwin Smith, who will study marketing conditions in European countries, expects to sail from New York on the U. S. liner, "George Washington," this Saturday. For prompt delivery, Mr. Smith's mail should be sent to the American Embassy, London, England, in care of Edward A. Foley, Agricultural Commissioner, as that office will keep informed of Mr. Smith's itinerary while he is in travel status.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

B. E. Shaffer completed his studies of grape grading and packing in western Michigan, and then proceeded to Pennsylvania and New York to make similar investigations. On Wednesday he left Rochester for Lockport, Hammondsport, Watkins and Penn Yan, from which point he will come to Washington.

Ray C. Bish plans to close the onion inspection work in the Kenton district of Ohio by the end of this week, and return to his headquarters in Cleveland. This will permit W. J. Bertush to return permanently to Detroit. Mr. Bertush has been assisting temporarily in the Cleveland office.

Having completed the inspections of apples around Troy, Kans., K. S. Branch returned to the Kansas City office last Monday.

C. D. Shirley also expects to finish his shipping-point inspection work at St. Ansgar, Iowa, by November 1, after which he will go for a short while to Chicago and then probably proceed to Texas. About 250 cars have been inspected in the St. Ansgar territory.

Latest reports from F. J. Baehler indicate that he will relinquish supervision of Utah inspections within the next few days, and proceed to Louisiana, where he will be permanently in charge of the Federal end of inspection and standardization work, with headquarters at Baton Rouge. It will be remembered that Mr. Baehler conducted this work in Louisiana for a considerable period during the summer, before going to Salt Lake City.

The "Oregon Daily Journal" for October 11 carried an entire-column article by R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, under the caption: "U. S. Inspection a Boon to Growers." Mr. Ringer told very pointedly of the history, development, and advantages of the inspection service.

Many of the Market News employees will remember L. A. Dellwig, who operated the Rochester field station and other offices before he took up duties as Chief Inspector in Center Market, Washington, D.C. Mr. Dellwig has now resigned from Federal service and accepted a position as manager for C. Engel's Sons, a large produce firm in the Center Market.

W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office advises that his residence address has been changed to 713 Brinkwood Road, Baltimore. Please make this correction on your address lists.

Upon closing the Grand Junction, Colo., field station this Friday, R. L. Sutton will proceed to Chicago, where he will assist with the market reporting work, possibly relieving R. H. Lamb or E. D. Mallison while the latter are on vacation.

F. H. Scruggs will come to the Washington office early next week, after closing the news service on apples at Martinsburg, W. Va. Here he will complete the preparation of field station summaries which are pending from recent deals that he has handled.

This week's "Country Gentleman" contains an illustrated article concerning Dr. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau, emphasizing his work in economics.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Miss Mayme C. Parker, for quite a number of years with the F. & V. Division but more recently employed in the section of Periodical Reports of Storage Holdings, is now connected with the Division of Information and is assisting with the consumer-demand studies. Miss Parker's headquarters are in Room 702, Bieber Bldg.

Last Friday and Saturday, W. L. Evans made a trip to New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore in the interest of the work of the Domestic Wool Section. He also visited our branch offices in these cities.

H. V. Demott left Washington last Sunday on a 10 days' trip to various points in Ohio, where he is interviewing dealers who handled part of the 1918 wool clip. Mr. Demott is auditor for the Domestic Wool Section.

It is with sincere regret that announcement is made of the resignation of B. S. Jones, inspector in St. Louis, effective today. Mr. Jones was appointed to the Inspection Service in October, 1920. He first served in Chicago, and in March, 1921, was placed in charge of the St. Louis office, where he has done very effective work. Mr. Jones has accepted a position with the Missouri Pacific Railroad, in which we wish him all success.

G. B. Fiske returned a few days ago from his trip through the fruit and vegetable sections of western New York. Miss Pearl Edwards also is back at her desk, after having compiled tabulations of peanut shipments at the Southern Railway offices, Suffolk, Va.

SEE REVERSE SIDE.

WHAT IS SUCCESS?

In a recent contest conducted by "Success" magazine, the following definition of success won the prize of \$1,000. It is worth reading. (The clipping was received through A. E. Frugh, of the Rochester office.) -

- LIFE IS A CYCLE OF SERVICE: HE WHO SERVES BEST ATTAINS SUCCESS, whether that service be humble or of great endeavor.
- Though materially considered as such, Success does NOT consist of Fame, which may vanish - nor of Riches which may dissipate.
- Success is rather that priceless wealth which the Heart, the Mind, and the Soul possess - when High Ideals are fulfilled - when adversity is vanquished - when a difficult task is surmounted - when achievement triumphs over circumstances!
- Success is that miraculous POWER with which the Creator has endowed EVERY human being - a vital, resistless force which overcomes every handicap - mental, physical and environmental, regardless of sex, age, creed or color.
- Recognition of this Power - and its development and use - is the factor which makes Success.
- The baby who completes the first toddling steps unaided knows Success. The engineer who harnesses a mighty waterfall and bends it to his will also knows Success. And there is no essential difference between the two, as far as Success itself is concerned.
- No worldly laurels can compare with the joy of that inward, buoyant, exultant thrill experienced at the birth of Success. It is the Act and not the Reward that makes true Success.
- SUCCESS is
 - any Honest Labor well done.
 - any Worthy Task faithfully accomplished.
 - any Reputable Profession honorably practiced.
 - establishing and holding steadfast to High Ideals - morally, socially, artistically, commercially.
 - Loyalty to one's self - to one's life work, to one's friends.
 - Vision - Optimism - Courage to carry on.
 - every conquest fairly won on Life's field of Honor.
- Though the World-at-large may never know of your Deeds of Attainment, your battles won, your Ideals realized;
though the plaudits of glory may never acclaim you,
KNOW THIS! and be happy in the thought!-
Each Day to Have Done YOUR NOBLEST, THAT is SUCCESS!

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 45.

November 7, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. IDAHO SHIPPING MORE CELERY.

Celery is receiving more attention in Idaho than it had in the past. Unsatisfactory returns from potatoes have caused some growers to look about for a better-paying crop. Celery and cauliflower have been the vegetables most experimented with, and results from the celery have been such that, in the opinion of many, it will come to a place of commercial importance. During 1923 about 50 carloads were shipped from the State, but it is estimated that the output this season will be nearer 100 cars.

G. D. Clark, our market reporter at Idaho Falls, cites the case of one farmer as an example: Last season this grower did a little experimenting with celery, planting about two acres. His plantings have been increased to 12 acres, and from this field it is believed that 25 cars may be shipped. Boise and Caldwell have been the main shipping points, but this year Wilder probably will rank near the top.

The principal variety grown in Idaho is the Golden Heart, although some Golden Self-blanching is found. Stock is packed in the regular California crates, measuring 22 by 24 inches at the base. An average load is 180 crates to the car. Reports are that the quality of this year's celery is very good, practically all grading U.S. No. 1. The crop is exceptionally free from disease and insect injury.

2a. ENGLISH APPLES COMPARED WITH AMERICAN FRUIT.

The "London Times" for October 3 carried a special article on the Apple Crop, by Mr. Henry Whiteaway, of Whimble, the eminent pomologist. The closing paragraph is quoted below:

"There should be no exorbitant prices this year for English apples, and the early culinary varieties are already on the market at prices within the reach of all. Some of the fancy dessert sorts may command higher figures than usual, owing to scarcity, but, after all, the English apple is the finest fruit in the world, and should surely be worth a few pence per pound more than those imported from abroad, which, although handsome in appearance, cannot compare in flavour and juiciness with the best home-grown varieties. The English apple-growing industry is in a very progressive condition, and I am glad to see has been instrumental in bringing many of our unemployed 'back to the land.'"

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 1:

- Page 276 - New Jersey peaches on London market. (filler)
- 278 - Special paragraphs on apples in the weekly review.
- 279 - Wenatchee Apples Pass Peak, - by G. E. Prince.
- 280 - Hood River Apples Moving Fast, - G. E. Prince.
- Jonathan Leads Colorado Apples, - by R. H. Lamb.
- 288 - Canada-Australia Dried Fruit Treaty.
- British Apple Markets, with price table for week ending Oct.25.
- Increase in Agricultural Exports of the United States.

4a. BRIEF CASE NO. 67.

The records of this Bureau are not clear in regard to the location of brief case No. 67. It will be appreciated, therefore, if the person who has brief case No. 67 advises this office immediately.

5a. OCTOBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The October Supplement to "Crops and Markets" was somewhat late in being distributed. In addition to the crop estimates for leading products, the farm prices, and other usual material, attention is called to the following items:

- Page 321 - Time of Issuance and Scope of Coming Crop Reports.
326 - Crop comments on potatoes, October 1. (filler)
- Average Prices of Florida and Texas Cabbage.
329 - Cranberry Production in Three States.
330 - Average Wages of Male Farm Labor per Month, by States.
331 - Average Wages of Male Farm Labor per Day, by States.
332 - Value of Bermuda Onion Crop of Texas.
- Cutting of kraut in northern Ohio. (filler)
- Percentage of Commercial Apple Crop that is of Early, Medium, and Late Varieties, by States.
335 - 1924 acreage of onions in Utah. (filler)
341 - New Agricultural Publications.
344 - Cold Storage Report for October 1 on Apples, Pears, Onions, Frozen and Preserved Fruits.
345 - Fewer Inspections during August.
- Watermelon Returns Low. (a review of the 1924 season)
346 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables by States, for August.
347 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits for August.
348 - Heavy Shipments Feature Peach Season. (a review of 1924 season)
349 - Condition of Honey Bees and Honey Plants, and Yields of Honey.
350 - Cabbage situation in New York State. (filler)
356 - Index Numbers of Agricultural Exports, with chart.
358 - Review of World Agriculture.
359 - The Price Situation.

6a. LOST! - TWO STEEL RULES.

Somebody borrowed two six-inch steel rules from Mr. Spilman's section, and failed to return them. The one is a hook-rule, and the other a flexible steel rule. Both were in a leather case. As these instruments are urgently needed in the work of measuring baskets and other containers, please advise Mr. Spilman or Mr. Baker immediately, if you know of the whereabouts of the rules.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. PUBLICATION OF EMBARGO INFORMATION NO LONGER REQUIRED.

Some months ago, at the earnest request of the American Railway Association, we agreed to publish current embargo information. The Association thought that greater publicity would be given to embargoes through our cooperation, which would tend to prevent misunderstandings. After giving the distribution of these reports a thorough trial, it has developed that no special good is being derived by anyone and, therefore, we have discontinued their publication.

It has been arranged, however, by the American Railway Association to have all agents instructed to make daily embargoes available to our field men, subject to their calling upon the agents. If demand for the daily publication of embargo information in our mimeographed reports develops at any field station, it will be satisfactory for the field man to get the information from the station agent at that point.

2b. RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING OCTOBER, 1924.

Name of Market Served	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Tele-graphic Errors	Un-classified Services to Markets	Un-necessary Services by Wash.	Un-answered Services	Voluntary Corrections (see note)
Atlanta	10	1	2	6	1		1	1
Baltimore	13	10	1	1	1			5
Boston	28	10	4	7	7			2
Chicago	89	40	15	16	18		5	10
Cincinnati	17	5	5	3	4			1
Denver	2		2					
Fort Worth	12	2	2	7	1			
Kansas City	15	4	2	6	2	1		4
Memphis	6	1	3	1	1		1	
Minneapolis*	19	13		4	2		2	2
New York	54	18	9	15	12		2	21
Philadelphia	38	19	4	2	13		1	3
Pittsburgh	18	11	1	4	2		1	10
St. Louis	30	7	5	8	10		5	8
Washington	3	2	1					10
OCT. TOTAL	372	143	56	80	74	1	16	77
SEPT. TOTAL	351	146	61	59	69	3	13	82

* Including St. Paul. NOTE: Not included in total of services.

3b. CHANGE IN APPLE PAGE OF CODE, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 13.

In the Division Letter of November 8, 1923, was included an item changing the word "mixed" in KIH, KIJ, KIM and KIN to "various varieties." Some offices did not make this change in their code books and, consequently, these symbols have not been used with entire uniformity. Inasmuch as "various varieties" can be expressed by the terminal UZ on the apple page of the code, it seems best to change back to the old meaning of these terms. In your code books, then, cross out the phrase "various varieties" in KIH, KIJ, KIM and KIN, and substitute the word "mixed."

4b. CHANGES IN DESCRIPTION OF CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS.

On page 396 of the Division Letter for August 29, under the caption "The Four Districts of California," a detailed statement was made of the boundary lines of the four producing districts, as used in the News Service. At the end of Par. 1, the following words should be added: "This district includes originations at Oakland Pier and San Francisco Terminal." In Par. 2, following the words "the line described in Par. 1," insert this phrase: "except Oakland Pier and San Francisco Terminal."

Opposite the original item on page 396, write this marginal note: "See additional statement of page 506."

5b. HEAVY ARRIVALS OF GRAPES IN CHICAGO.

E. D. Mallison, of the Chicago office, wrote in a letter of November 4 the following account of Michigan grape receipts in that city:-

"During the past week or 10 days Michigan grapes have been coming to this market in large quantities. October 28th probably was the big day of the season, arrivals being 67 cars by freight and approximately five cars by boat. Trucks also brought into the Chicago territory large quantities, the amount of which will be almost impossible to estimate.

"It is unusual for such a large volume of Michigan grapes to come to Chicago by truck. Six to eight hours are required to make the trip from shipping points such as Lawton, Benton Harbor, Sodus, St. Joseph and other smaller places. The cost of delivery here is 1¢ to 1½¢ less per basket than by boat. Grapes brought by truck do not secure a premium because of early arrival. As the market now opens late, shipments by boat have arrived in time for the opening. Besides this, large quantities have been on track in cars.

"Only a small percentage of the grapes that left Michigan by truck was sold on South Water Street, the greater portion going to suburban towns and cities east and west of Chicago; also to the stores in the southern and western parts of the city. Dealers here claim this cut into their sales considerably, as the heaviest grape-consuming centers are in the foreign sections, located mostly in the southern and western parts of Chicago."

6b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARY OF FIELD DEAL.

WISCONSIN CABBAGE DEAL, Season 1923-24, by W. H. Hall and G. A. DeHaven, is the title of a new field summary, distributed this week. Weekly price ranges are tabulated for several leading markets. Another table shows the daily shipments from Wisconsin and for the United States, the f.o.b. prices, and the Chicago arrivals from Wisconsin and from all other States. Wisconsin cabbage shipments also are given by originating stations and by months. This booklet contains 12 pages, including a general description of the Wisconsin cabbage industry.

B. C. BOREE,
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	Nov. 29
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears* Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches* Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 1* Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 13* Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
ORLANDO, FLA.** 311 Smith Bldg.	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 21	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Nov. 3 Nov. 3 Nov. 3	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Jan. 31

** State Department cooperating.

* Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. L. Sutton and R. H. Lamb - in Chicago office.

F. H. Scruggs - in Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. LATE BLIGHT TUBER ROT IN WISCONSIN POTATOES.

In a letter of October 23, Dr. G. B. Ramsey, B.P.I. Pathologist located in the Chicago office, tells of his findings on a recent trip through the potato districts of Wisconsin. This material is of special interest to inspectors:-

"In my trip through Wisconsin last week, I found some very interesting conditions relative to the Late Blight Tuber Rot situation. The excessively wet season, particularly in the latter part of the growing period, was favorable for the development of Late Blight. The spores of the fungus were washed down into the hills and caused infection of the tubers. In the early stages small, brown spots were in evidence on the surface of the potatoes, but in most instances the decay had advanced enough to show the characteristic purplish-brown rot.

"The decay was watery and of a reddish-brown color on the interior of the tubers. The sunken, dry type of decay, as found in tubers that have dried out or been in storage, was very seldom evident. To those trained to know Late Blight as a dry rot, this point may be worth remembering. The wet reddish-brown decay is much more likely to be found at this season of the year and the discoloration often penetrates the tuber to a depth of one-half inch or more, whereas, in the dry type the decay is dark brown and seldom penetrates over one-fourth inch. There is no definite odor to this decay unless Slimy Soft Rot follows: Fusarium has been found associated with Late Blight Tuber Rot in several cars of potatoes on the Chicago market.

"At Spooner, Shell Lake, Rice Lake and Sarona, Late Blight Tuber Rot was found in all of the warehouses visited. The stock, however, was so badly affected with decay, that the buyers were not taking any more potatoes. Some of the warehouse men had recognized the trouble as Late Blight Tuber Rot, but others were in doubt or did not know the disease at all. Undoubtedly a few cars have been shipped out that contained a rather high percentage of Blight. In the potatoes ^{that} are shipped directly from the field, decay will develop rapidly, and especially in the feathered, rather-immature stock, there is danger of its spreading to healthy tubers during transit.

"In the neighborhood of Rhinelander, Harshaw and Starks no Late Blight was found, although a careful search was made in several warehouses. There was a great deal of 'Field Frost' in some places, however, and this is likely to show up in the market to a slight extent. Most of this stock is thrown out during the grading, but, since only one side or end of the tuber is frozen, it is very difficult to get out all of these potatoes. Field-frosted tubers are almost sure to have Slimy Soft Rot by the time they reach the market.

"At Rosholt, Iola, Waupaca and Stevens Point, Late Blight Tuber Rot is very bad. The low, heavy, wet soils in the Waupaca region were especially favorable for the development of tuber rot. The potatoes were rather immature and were badly feathered. Some of this stock was being stored in warehouses and eventually will appear upon the markets. Unfortunately, the decaying tubers come from the heavy, wet soils and are so dirty and dull in color that, even in careful grading, a certain amount of decay is sure to be overlooked."

2c. PACKING HOUSE COSTS, ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY.

The following are extracts from a paper read at the Orlando meeting of the Florida Citrus Exchange and Sub-Exchange Managers by H. V. Ray, as published in the Florida Grower. (This is reprinted from Florida Weekly News Letter):-

"From the experience of the DeLand Citrus Growers Association, packing house efficiency, costs and economy cover a greater field than packing house operations..

"The fundamental principle we always stress and strive to sell to heads of our different departments is cooperation, for it is impossible to work harmoniously and achieve results without it.

"Our work is started with the field foremen, who are fully informed as to their duties at the beginning of each season. At the beginning of each week, every foreman receives a list of the groves he is to work, and an estimate of the amount of fruit in each. He is furnished with a picking crew of sufficient size to pick day by day a certain number of boxes of fruit, or his share of the amount we pack according to market requirements.

"Any irregularities in the hauling of fruit from the grove to packing house ~~are~~ reported to the head office by the field foreman at once, and prompt steps are always taken to have them corrected by the hauling contractor.

"By so arranging our field work, we are enabled to regulate the operations of the house that there are practically no leakages from excess labor. We can not operate the house in an efficient manner from the day-labor standpoint unless our outside work is promptly organized. This same harmony must exist through all departments in the packing house.

"We Have been very successful in dividing the functions of our packing house into several departments: to wit,-receiving clerk, head grader, tally clerk, paper department and box-making department. These department heads are under the direct supervision of a man known as the packing house foreman, who, with the advice and guidance of the association manager, is wholly responsible for the packing operations of our plant.

"The receiving clerk receives all fruit delivered to the packing house and gives proper credit for it. He has complete charge of the dumping, washing, drying and polishing of this fruit, and directs all labor for this work.

"The head grader's job is to see that the graders do their work in accordance with our grading rules.

"The tally clerk has charge of all fruit after it leaves the box presses and must make a proper and correct individual tally of each grower's crop. He also supervises the trucking and loading of fruit into the cars.

"The paper department is very vital, and, if not properly managed, can be the source of enormous wastes. We have one man in charge of our paper supply. No packer is allowed to help himself. The head of the department always furnishes the packers with the paper they need, and sees to it that they get the proper size for the fruit they are handling. In our association, the man in charge of the paper also attends to the sale of all cull fruit.

(continued over)

"Our box department has charge of the production of the boxes necessary for our daily output. This department head must also maintain a surplus of made-up boxes sufficient to carry us over any ordinary breakdown period.

"The packing house foreman has complete charge over all the help. He does all the hiring and firing. He supervises all operations in the handling of fruit from the time it reaches the packing house until it is loaded into the cars. It is his duty continually to inspect all operations and see to it that each individual is performing his or her work correctly. This foreman is responsible for the faithful performance of his duties to the association manager only. The manager is the guiding-hand in all operations, both in the packing house and the field.

"The receiving clerk must furnish for each car of fruit run through the house a regular run sheet, which shows the number of boxes of each grower's fruit. Each night, before leaving, he must check all fruit on the floor in field boxes with the receiving tickets he has on file, so that, if any error has been made, it can be corrected at once.

"When each car of fruit is loaded, the tally clerk must turn into the office a proper individual tally sheet, showing the number of boxes of every grower's fruit. The receiving clerk's sheet must accompany this statement."

3c. OHIO ONION INSPECTIONS TO BE CONTINUED.

In a news item in the last Division Letter, it was implied that onion inspections around Kenton, Ohio, were discontinued upon the return of Ray C. Bish to the Cleveland office. Mr. Bish advises that this work still is being conducted in cooperation with the State of Ohio, and that Guy O. Sellers, of McGuffey, has been employed to make inspections in the district. According to present plans, the inspection service will be continued at least until January 1, and, if there is further need of the service, Mr. Sellers probably will remain as inspector until most of the onions have been shipped. Any communication regarding Ohio onion inspections can be addressed to Mr. Sellers, at McGuffey. Practically all of the onions had been harvested when Mr. Bish returned to Cleveland, and are now either in storage houses or in sheds. Most storage houses are well filled and, consequently, there is a considerable number of cars to be shipped before the deal is completed.

4c. LARGE NUMBER OF COLORADO CANTALOUPE INSPECTIONS.

On closing the inspection work in southeastern Colorado about 10 days ago, Neal D. Sanborn, supervising inspector, reported that the volume of work handled during the season was greater than at first expected. Shipment statistics indicate that about 2,750 cars of cantaloupes and 575 cars of Honey Dew melons were forwarded from the district. Of that number, the following cars were inspected at shipping point:- 1,858 straight cars of cantaloupes, 562 straight cars of Honey Dews, 22 cars of watermelons, 729 mixed cars of melons (probably listed as "cantaloupes" in shipment reports), and 1 car of Casabas, making a total of 3,172 cars inspected.

P. D. RUPERT,

Asst. Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

Last Saturday, November 1, Mr. Sherman left on a week's trip to Jacksonville and other points in Florida. He has been conferring with Robert Bier, at Jacksonville, and helping to determine important inspection policies relative to maturity tests for grapefruit shipments. Mr. Sherman probably will visit other supervising inspectors in Florida, before returning to Washington early next week.

Mr. Robb was in Austin, Texas, yesterday, conferring with State officials regarding cooperative shipping-point inspection work in Texas. He may return to Washington by the end of this week. Mr. Robb is scheduled to deliver an address on "The Marketing Situation in Relation to the Southern Peach Crop" at the 41st annual convention of the American Pomological Society, which will meet in Atlantic City next Tuesday.

M. A. Russell, Associate Regional Supervisor, went from the Chicago office last week to St. Louis and New Orleans, for the purpose of attending the inspectors' conferences on citrus grades. On Tuesday he visited the Fort Worth office; Wednesday he was in Kansas City; Thursday in St. Louis, and by Saturday Mr. Russell expects to be back in Chicago.

Both M. C. Gregory, of the Fort Worth office, and H.T. Longino, of the Houston office, attended the inspectors' conference at New Orleans on Friday and Saturday of last week.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., spent a couple of days in the Washington office early this week, en route from St. Louis to Florida. He drove his automobile from Washington to Orlando, Fla., which point will now be his headquarters during the inspection season in that State.

Mr. Stillwell went from western New York to the market news offices at Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, for the purposes of conferring with local representatives in those cities. He probably will be back at his desk on Monday, November 10.

Before leaving Martinsburg, W. Va., F. H. Scruggs issued a comprehensive two-page review of the apple season in that region, telling particularly of the storage situation. The greater portion of his summary will appear in "Crops and Markets" at an early date. Mr. Scruggs will be in the Washington office about 10 days or two weeks.

R. R. Pailthorp returned last Friday from his investigational trip to New York State. B.E. Shaffer, who has been making a study of the grading and packing of eastern grapes, also reached Washington this week, and will spend some time here, working up the report of his findings.

J. J. Gardner's departure from Martinsburg, W. Va., was delayed until a few days ago. He visited the Washington office on Wednesday, en route to his headquarters in Pittsburgh. M. L. Henry, who has been helping with Pittsburgh inspections, will now return to the New York City office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Effective date for the resignation of B. S. Jones, inspector in St. Louis, has been deferred until early next week, in order to permit of more careful arrangements for the future handling of the work in that market.

Since K. S. Branch has returned to the Kansas City office, R. N. Balster who handled inspections there the past few weeks, has proceeded to Chicago, and can now be reached at that office.

Mr. Samson has prepared an article on "Progress in National Standardization," which will appear in an early issue of The Blue Anchor, the house organ of the California Fruit Exchange, Sacramento.

R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, has been in camp with the R. O. T. C. at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, this week. Beginning next Monday, he will go on five days' annual leave.

C. D. Shirley arrived at the Chicago office of the Inspection Service early this week, from St. Ansgar, Iowa. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Shirley started for San Antonio, Texas, taking two days' leave in Indiana en route.

After finishing the grape inspection work in Michigan a few days ago, O. N. Harsha was en route to his home in Indiana, when he met with an accident, fracturing two ribs and suffering painful injuries to his back. Fortunately, his condition is not serious, and he hopes to be able to report for duty again by November 15.

J. H. Hoover completed on November 1 his assignment as supervising inspector for South Dakota potatoes, and proceeded from Watertown to Kansas City. He will be on a short period of leave at 701 Tennessee Street, Lawrence, Kans. On two days of this week, Mr. Hoover expected to attend the Kaw Valley Potato Show, held in Kansas City.

The Benton Harbor office of the Market News Service was closed on October 30, instead of 31, and R. H. Shoemaker has moved to the Federal Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich., where he will continue to issue reports on potatoes, apples and onions.

The two-page review of the western New York apple situation, released by A. E. Prugh at Rochester and mentioned in last week's Division Letter, was reprinted in full in the November 1 issue of the New York Packer. It occupied more than a column in that paper.

Robert Bier went from Jacksonville to Orlando, Fla., last Friday, in connection with the local inspection work, and that evening he and W. H. Hall, in charge of market reports, attended a luncheon and business meeting of the Fruitman's Club, at Orlando.

The Florida address of F. E. Hooper, listed on page 499 of the last D.L., should be changed from the Wahrhausen Bldg. to 23 Snell Bank Bldg., Winter Haven.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5. NO. 46.

November 14, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. JAPANESE SET ONIONS.

Two or three months ago, quotations on Japanese set onions appeared frequently in the Boston market reports and occasionally in those of Philadelphia and other cities. It seemed impossible at the time, however, to get much information about these onions or why they were given the name "Japanese." Recently a letter has been received from F. H. Woodruff & Sons, of Milford, Conn., the seedsmen who originated this onion, and excerpts are given below, in the belief that they may interest both market reporters and inspectors:

"We originated and placed on the market the Japanese Onion in 1916. This is a name that we gave it. It never originated in Japan and never saw Japan, but we called it the Japanese Onion for want of a better name, and it has become very popular.

"It doubles the yield of the average old-fashioned Yellow Strassburg onion sets and enables the farmer on old onion land, that has become smutty and where he can't grow a crop of the regular Yellow Globe Danvers from the seed, to get seven and eight hundred bushels to the acre from sets. It is a remarkably fine keeping onion, both the large bulb and the set itself, and it is also a very mild, fine-flavored onion."

(Additional information regarding these onions can be found on page 120 of Crops and Markets for August 23.)

2a. SUCCESS OF RADIO BROADCASTING IN THE FAR WEST.

Writing under date of November 1, S. H. Fountain, inspector for the Navy at Vallejo, Calif., tells of his success in receiving radio reports:-

"Probably you will be interested in hearing about my receiving the radio reports on fruit and vegetables. I have a small three-tube set which I constructed myself and, since the wet weather has come and the summer static is about eliminated, I have been able to pick up the reports from four stations, Mr. Hansen's report from San Francisco, Mr. Harris' report from Los Angeles, Mr. Ringer's from Portland, and Mr. Duncan's report from Salt Lake City. These reports come in with sufficient volume and clearness to operate a loud speaker and can be heard distinctly all over the house. I think that this will give you an idea of the wide stretch of country served by these stations, and the value of these reports to growers throughout this large territory is inestimable. The fact that my receiving set is only an average one and not so powerful as many sets which I have seen on farms in the Sacramento Valley leads me to believe that almost every grower possessing a radio outfit is profiting by these reports."

3a. NEW FISCAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROPERTY REGULATIONS.

A new edition of the Fiscal, Administrative and Property Regulations in loose-leaf form, similar to that now being used for the Fiscal Regulations, is being mailed to all branch offices and to all field men now holding Fiscal Regulations. These regulations will supersede all others previously issued, and they contain all amendments which have been issued in loose-leaf form up to the present time. The binders at present being used for the Fiscal Regulations should be used for the new regulations. Old regulations now on hand may be destroyed. If you fail to receive a copy of the new regulations, or if you do not now have regulations and need a copy, please advise Mr. Evans and a copy will be forwarded you. Binders may also be obtained upon request. Since these new regulations have been issued, the revision of the administrative sections of our market news and inspection handbooks will soon be completed and new copies distributed.

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 8:

- Page 294 - Special paragraphs on grapes in the weekly review.
 295 - Idaho Shipping More Celery, - by G. D. Clark.
 - Washington Potato Market Stronger, - by G. E. Prince.
 - Western New York peaches put up in barrels. (filler)
 296 - Western Colorado Potatoes and Apples, - R. L. Sutton.
 - Yakima Valley Apples Harvested, - by G. E. Prince.
 - New York Apples in Firm Position, - based on review by
 A. E. Prugh.
 298 - Pear shipments from the Wenatchee district. (filler)
 304 - Heavy Apple Shipments to Foreign Markets.
 - Prices of American Apples on British Markets, week ending
 Nov. 1.

5a. EXTENSIVE TRUCK BUSINESS HANDLED COOPERATIVELY.

Sales amounting to \$1,540,905 for the year ending September 30, 1924, are reported by the South Carolina Produce Association, Meggetts, S.C. Of this amount the growers received \$1,464,094, or 95%. Measured in terms of money received, potatoes and cabbage were the most important products handled, with beans, tomatoes, lettuce and spinach coming next, followed by peas, cucumbers, turnips, carrots, and a number of other vegetables. The number of minimum cars shipped was 3,634 and the average net amount per car paid to the growers was \$348.

Volume of sales for each of the last six years is reported as follows:

Year	Number of Cars Shipped	Amount of Business
1919	2,508	\$1,197,091
1920	3,170	2,970,593
1921	3,530	1,229,463
1922	3,968	1,641,545
1923	4,291	2,455,736
1924	3,634	1,540,905

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. USE OF "DOCK SALES" AND "STREET SALES" IN NEW YORK REPORTS.

As an explanation of the practice of using the phrases "dock sales" and "street sales" in the New York wires, V. D. Callanan has written us as follows:

"Stock sold on the dock is considered ordinarily the best indication of the market, and street sales very often represent what would usually be termed 'jobbing sales.' As a general rule, therefore, dock sales are lower and do not include the cost of cartage from the docks to the street or other place of business of the buyers. For example: in our quotations on apples, I endeavor to quote only actual sales between 8 and 9 o'clock each morning on Pier 17, except when I find large stocks being sold through the various receivers' stores along Washington Street. Similarly, we quote only boxed apples sold at private sale on the Erie Railroad, and southern produce sold on Pier 29 of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Whenever I use the heading 'street sales,' I do so in the feeling that these sales should be included to indicate the general market, because dock sales are not available.

"It quite often happens that the variation is just opposite to what I have stated for some reason, usually because of late arrivals on the street after the buyers have left the dock; then street sales may be made at lower levels than were obtained earlier at the piers. This is an exception, however, and I usually try to qualify quotations so as to indicate the reason for lower prices on the street."

2b. GOOD USE MADE OF LOS ANGELES REPORTS ON CASH SALES.

A letter of November 1, from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, tells of the important use made of the cash-sales information obtained in that territory:-

"I thought you would be interested in knowing of the use that is being made of the Los Angeles f.o.b. markets. Several growers and shippers have contracted to sell their tomatoes, lettuce, and cauliflower on the basis of the f.o.b. cash track and cash to growers prices, as given in our daily bulletin.

"It has been at times difficult to establish a market for both bases of sale, on account of the light movement and the widely-scattered area over which these crops are grown. Many growers consign through the shippers and many shippers sell on a delivered basis, so that I have had to comb the country at times to find enough cash sales to make a market. These crops are grown from San Diego to Ventura or in a strip nearly 200 miles long. However, I have felt that I should make an especial effort to justify this faith in our market reports."

3b. DOES THE WEEKLY REVIEW REACH YOU PROMPTLY?

Mimeographed copies of the Weekly Market Review and Summary of Carlot Shipments are supposed to be mailed to all offices on Tuesday P.M. Please calculate the usual mailing time between Washington and your city, and advise this office if the Review does not reach you promptly. On a recent f.o.b. report, wired on Thursday night, the Rochester office advised that the Review had not been received. Two copies had been sent that office by different persons that Tuesday, and neither copy seems to have reached Rochester after 48 hours had elapsed. Keep us informed of unusual delays in mail service.

4b. GRAPEFRUIT AND ORANGE SITUATION IN FLORIDA.

W. H. Hall, in a letter of November 5, gives the following information regarding the citrus fruit situation in Florida:

"Shipments of both grapefruit and oranges have shown material increases during the past few days. Grapefruit shipments reached 131 cars on November 1st, and on November 4th 86 cars of oranges went out. The market has been rather active, but shippers, anticipating a repetition of last season's sad experience, mutually agreed last week to stop picking grapefruit until November 10th, thus giving the terminal markets an opportunity to clean up. As many of the houses had a considerable supply picked, it was supposed that there would be no appreciable decrease in shipments for several days. Apparently, most of the shippers are sincere in their desire to cooperate in this action. While no definite agreement has been reached, it is believed that something will be done to graduate shipments after November 10th.

"Last season's experience is a nightmare to the citrus people here, and they seem to realize that the year would have been much less disastrous had greater care been exercised in grading. Their present intentions are to offset the heavy production by closer grading, but whether or not this practice continues appreciably throughout the season remains to be seen. From various sources we hear arguments that the Government's estimate of the Florida citrus crop is from two to four million boxes too high. Similar statements were made last season, and yet an analysis of production and shipment figures indicates that production figures were conservative. There is another problem which perhaps overshadows those enumerated above, and that is the failure of so much of the grapefruit to pass the required acid test, which is a ratio of 1 to 7.

"I have been feeling out the trade regarding the advisability of quoting an f.o.b. market, but, so far as I am able to judge, the time is not quite ripe for this. A number of inquiries about an f.o.b. market have come to the Orlando office; so there undoubtedly is some demand for the service."

5b. SUMMARY OF IDAHO LATE POTATO SEASON.

A summary of the IDAHO LATE POTATO DEAL, Season of 1923-24, by A. E. Prugh, was distributed a few days ago. The front page carries an outline map of Idaho, with principal shipping points marked. This review is especially complete, comprising a total of 43 pages. There are 16 pages of text throughout the summary, in addition to numerous tables. Mr. Prugh presents an interesting discussion of Idaho potatoes. One feature is the reprinting of special marketing articles, which originally appeared as part of his daily reports at Idaho Falls. There is a table, showing the elevation of various shipping points in the State, and another table relating to the freight rates from numerous western potato sections to leading city markets. An especially interesting tabulation covers the weather conditions in Idaho for 15 years. Considerable space is devoted to a review of the Idaho inspection service on potatoes, the U. S. grades for potatoes, and a sample inspection certificate. Idaho potato acreage, yield and production are shown for a period of 42 years. Shipment and distribution tables are very complete, and brief descriptions are given of other western potato-shipping sections, six States in all.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears* Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches* Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 1* Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 13* Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
ORLANDO, FLA.** 311 Smith Bldg. Mail: P. O. Box 188	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 21	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg. Mail: P. O. Box 83	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions	Nov. 3 Nov. 3 Nov. 3	Apr. 30 Nov. 11* Jan. 31

The following station closes on date indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	July 25	<u>Closed</u> Nov. 14
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** State Department cooperating.

* Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. L. Sutton and R. H. Lamb - in Chicago office.

F. H. Scruggs - in Baltimore office.

C. E. Schultz - in San Francisco office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. MATURITY OF FLORIDA GRAPEFRUIT.

Because the 7-to-1 acid test for grapefruit was not found in all instances an accurate indication of maturity, - many lots which were below this test being satisfactory from a commercial standpoint, - the following modifications in instructions were sent to all Florida shipping-point inspectors on November 6.

The color requirement for maturity, which is mentioned here, should govern the maturity statements made in receiving-point work as well:-

"Commence passing as mature grapefruit which is full of juice, with cells plump and none granular, which shows yellow with green tinge on at least three-fourths of surface as it comes from the tree. Not green with yellow tinge. This grapefruit not to be disqualified for U.S. 1 if subsequently gassed to full color, but no U.S. 1 certificate to be issued on gassed fruit which inspector has not seen before gassing, unless it passes acid test. Continue to make acid test on oranges as usual.

(The following explanatory statements are taken from the Florida News Letter): Inspectors should explain this to each packing-house manager, and caution him against putting any fruit in the coloring room that he desires certified as U.S. No. 1 or choice, on the color basis, without first showing you the fruit.

Inspectors must look for evidence of gassing in the grove. If you are in doubt, or of the opinion that the fruit has been gassed, you should satisfy yourself by a trip to the grove if necessary. If the manager is not able to satisfy you that it is natural color, it will be necessary to make the acid test.

A few fruit in a lot may be found which do not come up to the color requirements for maturity. *On fruit that has not been artificially colored, the green fruit should be scored and treated as a defect. Fruit that is not going to the coloring chamber should not be scored on color before it reaches the bins, as many green fruit will be removed in grading.

Grapefruit meeting the color requirements should be described under "Quality and Condition" as mature. Color should be described as you have been doing.

This will not doubt eliminate most of the acid-testing work on grapefruit, as managers will pick close for color.

There is no change whatever on oranges. Continue to make the acid test on oranges, regardless of color.

Every precaution should be taken to see that fruit is not changed on you in the coloring room. A very good way to check this is with the blue crayon, by running a blue line from the lower corner of the stack to the opposite upper corner. Any change in the arrangement of the boxes will be quickly noted - *On fruit going into the gassing chamber, a tolerance of 10% may be allowed.

2c. LITERATURE BEING SENT TO INSPECTORS.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the booklet, entitled: "Standard Grading and Packing Rules of APPLES and PEARS, adopted by Growers and Shippers of Hood River County, Oregon, Season 1924."

Under separate cover copies of a large chart will be mailed to all offices. This chart is distributed by the State of Washington and is entitled: "Apple Grading Rules, Season 1924."

Each inspector also will receive summaries, in chart form, of the U.S. grades for Northern-Grown Onions, Bermuda Onions, and Potatoes.

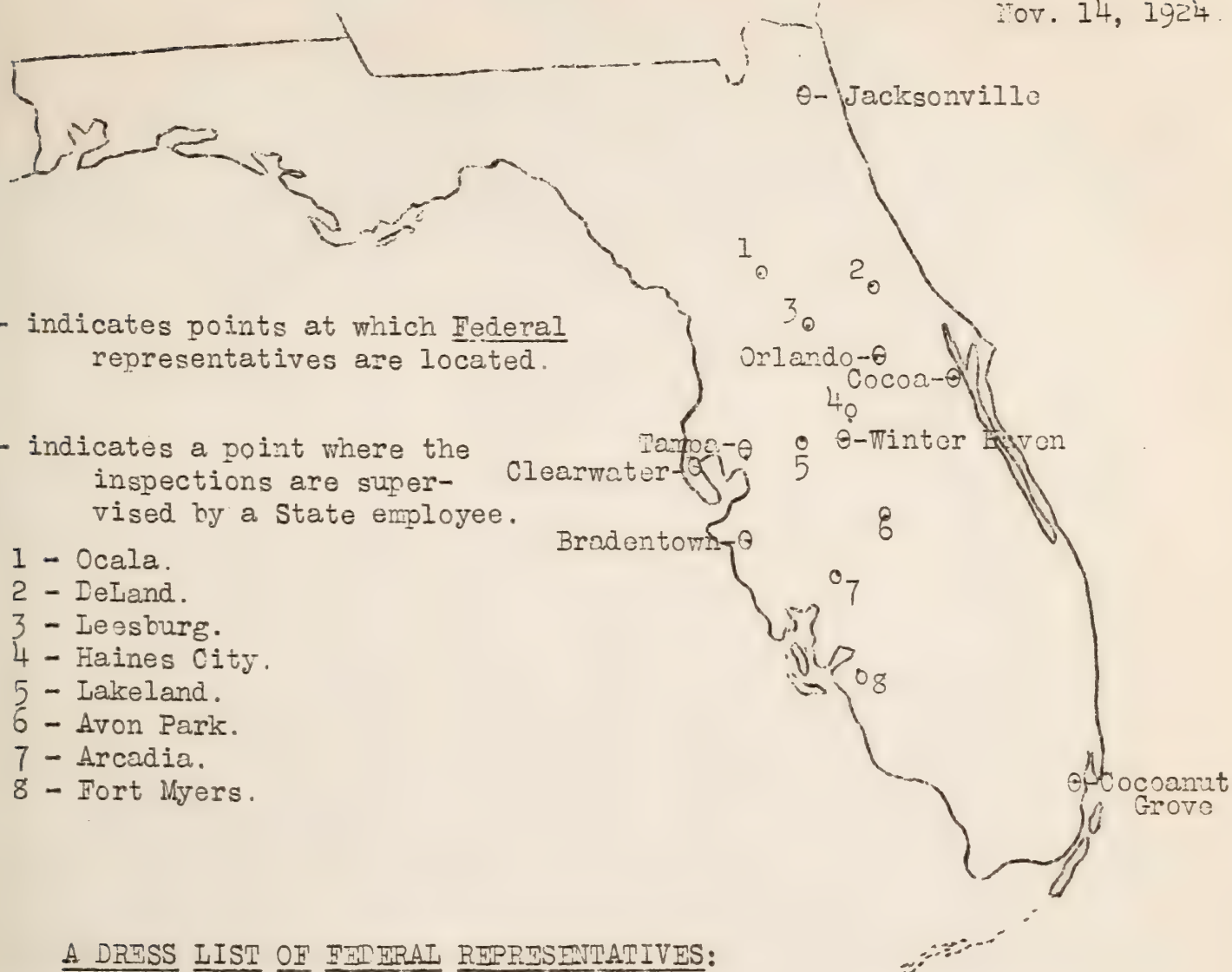
FEDERAL-STATE SHIPPING POINT INSPECTION SERVICE IN FLORIDA.

Nov. 14, 1924.

⊖ - indicates points at which Federal representatives are located.

o - indicates a point where the inspections are supervised by a State employee.

- 1 - Ocala.
- 2 - DeLand.
- 3 - Leesburg.
- 4 - Haines City.
- 5 - Lakeland.
- 6 - Avon Park.
- 7 - Arcadia.
- 8 - Fort Myers.



A DRESS LIST OF FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES:

JACKSONVILLE: 204 St. James Bldg.

Robert Bier

ORLANDO: 311 Smith Bldg.

Mail address - P. O. Box 188.

O. G. Strauss

N. C. Farnworth

E. E. Conklin, Jr.

BRADENTOWN: American Enterprise Bldg.

Mail address - P. O. Box 691.

Geo. A. DeHaven

CLEARWATER: Mail address - P. O. Box ~~3231~~ 2423.

J. C. Townsend, Jr.

COCOA: Mail address - P. O. Box 1046.

J. A. Marks

COCOANUT GROVE:

C. H. Behnke, Inspector in Charge, should be addressed at
137 N.W. 23rd Street, Miami, Fla.

TAMPA: ~~707 E. Washington Street~~ 336 Hyde Park Ave.

G. R. Warren

WINTER HAVEN: 23 Snell Bank Bldg.

F. E. Hooper.

(KEEP THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE)

CITY INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1924.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspec- tions for Carriers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	23	34	57	114	1	2	\$216	\$ 7.50	\$ 9
Baltimore	17	16	33	30	3	0	128	2.50	4
Boston	61	43	104	102	22	2	420	2.50	14
Buffalo	15	6	21	61	2	0	72	7.50	1
Chicago	158	77	235	287	15	14	1012	15.00	28
Cincinnati	32	14	46	49	0	0	176	5.00	1
Cleveland	58	74	132	74	59	0	500	22.50	47
Columbus	34	2	36	58	0	0	144	--	3
Denver	11	4	15	7	0	0	60	--	--
Detroit	42	20	62	53	4	0	256	2.50	7
Fort Worth	24	20	44	34	1	1	196	2.50	2
Harrisburg	0	2	2	3	0	0	8	--	--
Houston	14	13	27	37	1	0	104	5.00	--
Indianapolis	26	6	32	38	0	0	116	2.50	2
Kansas City	101	27	128	74	1	8	512	2.50	4
Los Angeles	2	1	3	0	0	0	36	--	--
Memphis	15	17	32	45	20	0	128	--	4
Milwaukee	25	9	34	34	0	0	132	2.50	4
Minneapolis	36	20	56	86	0	2	220	2.50	5
New Haven	42	11	53	62	0	0	204	5.00	5
New Orleans	42	105	147	145	88	6	488	70.00	16
New York	647	432	1079	796	26	0	2808	712.50	121
Norfolk	18	64	82	59	0	0	92	--	2
Omaha	1	2	3	23	0	0	8	--	1
Philadelphia	38	5	43	73	9	0	136	22.50	2
Pittsburgh	77	60	137	308	30	0	564	--	19
Portland	3	74	77	30	0	2	280	17.50	--
Salt Lake City	1	3	4	3	0	0	16	--	--
St. Louis	76	65	141	149	31	0	528	22.50	24
Washington	11	18	29	47	1	0	112	2.50	25
Wilkes-Barre	13	2	15	18	3	0	56	2.50	3
TOTAL	1663	1246	2909	2899	317	36	\$9728	\$937.50	\$353

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....1663	Inspections for Carriers..317
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections..1246	Declined for lack time.... 36
GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.....2909	Total Fees Assessed...\$11,117#

Total fees assessed includes \$98.50 for Inspections made on Per-Hour Basis, by the Norfolk Office.

NOTE:- The 1,079 inspections made by New York office during October is the highest monthly record ever established in the history of the Service.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING OCTOBER, 1924.

SYMBOLS:		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS.									
N Navy	M-Marine Corps	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" made to comply with specifications	Items billed short-weight					
STATIONS		N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON		303078		1272		344350		121		19	
		4509			0	4509			0		0
NEW YORK		400718		13735		414453		210		0	
		91066		2896		93962		29		0	
NORFOLK		0		0		0		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0	
PHILADELPHIA		285570		16707		302277		1176		0	
		20804		1836		22640		66		0	
SAN DIEGO		537442		4182		541624		656		232	
		82195		98		82293		100		0	
SAN FRANCISCO		271983		29920		301903		100		0	
		0		0		0		0		0	
SAN PEDRO		613487		13055		626542		208		0	
		0		0		0		0		0	
VALLEJO		272474		12772		285246		125		0	
		42558		0		42558		585		0	
TOTALS		2684752		91643		2816395		2596		251	
		241132		4830		245962		780		9	

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	43339	1175	44514	0	0
NORFOLK	56095	0	56095	0	0
TOTALS	109434	1175	100609	0	0

In addition to the above, the Norfolk office inspected 7,375 pounds of fresh, cured and smoked meats, cheese and fowl for the Navy; no rejections or "cuts."

The San Pedro office, in addition to the above, inspected other product including bread, butter and cheese, in the following amounts;

Products	Accepted	Rejected
Bread	10,160 lbs.	0 lbs.
Butter	16,092 lbs.	1080 lbs.
Cheese	529 lbs.	0 lbs.
Total	26,781 lbs.	1080 lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected 53,261 pounds of bread and rolls for the Navy; no rejections.

The New York office also inspected products for the United States Lines and the Munson Line as follows:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections	Cuts
United States Lines	290,355 lbs.	111,276 lbs.	4,295 lbs.	125 lbs.
Munson Line	55,848 lbs.	19,123 lbs.	612 lbs.	0 lbs.
Total	346,203 lbs.	130,399 lbs.	4,907 lbs.	125 lbs.

3c. HOOD RIVER GRADES FOR APPLES AND PEARS.

In connection with the booklet on Hood River Apple and Pear Grades, being distributed this week, F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, writes as follows:

"It is well to mention at this time that the Oregon grades for boxed apples, published in this book, are the standard for the entire State of Oregon. While these grades follow closely the tentative U. S. boxed apple grades, worked up by Mr. Samson a little over a year ago, they are not identical, there being a few slight variations from the grades proposed by Mr. Samson.

"The Hood River pear grading rules, contained in these booklets, are local grades adopted by Hood River this season and are not identical with the Oregon pear grades, as used at Medford, Roseburg and other points in Oregon."

4c. REPORT OF CITRUS INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

During the period October 9 to 31, the following inspections of citrus fruit were made in the sections of Florida indicated:-

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Grape- fruit.</u>	<u>Oranges</u>	<u>Mixed Citrus.</u>	<u>Total</u>
AVON PARK.....	38	-	-	38
BRADENTOWN.....	74	-	2	76
DADE COUNTY (Cocoanut Grove).....	100	-	-	100
FORT MYERS.....	4	-	-	4
LAKELAND.....	3	1	-	4
LAKE COUNTY (Leesburg).....	-	6	-	6
HAINES CITY.....	9	1	-	10
ORANGE COUNTY (Orlando).....	-	5	-	5
MARION COUNTY (Ocala).....	-	12	-	12
PINELLAS COUNTY (Clearwater).....	1	3	1	5
TAMPA.....	3	-	-	3
WINTER HAVEN.....	13	24	3	40
Total.....	245	52	6	303

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned from his Florida trip on Monday. While South, he conferred with supervising inspectors, State officials and representatives of the citrus fruit industry at Jacksonville, Orlando, Leesburg, Winter Haven and Tampa. The main purpose of Mr. Sherman's trip was to help in arriving at important decisions regarding the maturity of grapefruit. The results of these conferences are published on page 518 of this D. L.

J. A. Marks, who recently went to Florida to assist in supervising the shipping-point inspection work, has been placed in charge of the Indian River district, with headquarters at Cocoa, on the East Coast. His mail address is P. O. Box 1046, Cocoa, Fla.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Mr. Stillwell reached the Washington office last Friday, November 7, a day earlier than expected. He reports the market news work progressing nicely in eastern market stations and field offices.

Mr. Robb also returned from his southwestern trip last Monday, and on Tuesday gave his scheduled address at the Atlantic City convention of the American Pomological Society.

R. H. Lamb, who has been in charge of the Chicago office of the News Service since W. H. Hall went to Florida, is now on two weeks' annual leave at his home at Randolph Center, Vermont. He expects to be back in Chicago by December 1. E. D. Mallison and R. L. Sutton are handling the Chicago market reporting work in Mr. Lamb's absence.

In a recent letter from Los Angeles, J. W. Park advises that he has visited most of the important walnut packing houses in southern California and has made a study of the inspection methods followed in that territory. During the first week of November, Mr. Park made a trip to the walnut districts in northern California, spending a day also in Sacramento and San Francisco. In cooperation with local representatives, Mr. Park hopes to be able to submit recommendations for standard grades for walnuts within a week or two.

J. H. Hoover will assume temporary charge of the St. Louis inspection office next Monday, November 17, succeeding B. S. Jones in that position. L. G. Peirce will remain in St. Louis to assist with the inspection work.

O. N. Harsha has recovered sufficiently from his recent accident to permit his leaving Vincennes, Ind., where he has been on vacation. Mr. Harsha will drive by automobile to Rochester, N. Y., and expects to reach there by the end of this week. He will take over the supervision of shipping-point inspection work, formerly handled by W. V. Stephens. Mr. Harsha's Rochester address is Room 409, Triangle Bldg.

W. V. Stephens, who was looking after the inspection work at western New York shipping points, has returned to his headquarters in New York City. Mr. Stephens is Assistant Supervising Inspector for the Eastern District.

F. H. Scruggs will leave this evening for Baltimore, where he will substitute for W. E. Harrison from November 17 to 29, while the latter is on leave.

R. W. Davis returned on Tuesday from his recent trip to celery-shipping sections of Michigan and New York. Frosts caught the Michigan crop and curtailed shipments seriously. Mr. Davis is endeavoring to work up specifications for standard celery crates. On this trip, he visited a number of our branch offices and field stations.

H. A. Spilman left on Tuesday for a short trip to Jacksonville, Fla., where he is attending the convention of the Standard Container Manufacturers' Association. Special attention will be given at this meeting to specifications for the six-basket crate. Mr. Spilman will return to Washington today.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

C. D. Shirley has reached San Antonio, Texas, and is on a period of leave before reopening the San Antonio office of the Inspection Service about November 20. The office will be located as formerly in the Chamber of Commerce Bldg.

W. E. Lewis returned from two weeks' leave, spent at his time in Rhode Island, and has now proceeded to New York City, where he will assist with inspection work and make investigations as to the application of certain grades for fruits and vegetables.

Both the Detroit "News" and "Free Press" for Sunday, October 26, carried feature articles, relating to the Michigan grape industry. These stories were well illustrated, and gave special attention to the Federal agencies engaged in inspection and market news work in the Michigan grape belt.

G. W. Winfrey, who has been assisting in the Minneapolis office, left on November 10 for New York City, which will be his headquarters for the present. He will help with inspection work in New York.

In a letter of November 1, S. H. Fountain, at Vallejo, Calif., advises that his residence telephone number is Vallejo 1336-J.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INSPECTORS:

About July 10, inspectors in charge of branch offices advised Washington of any changes in their residence addresses and phone numbers, so that the correct information might be included in the revised Inspectors' Address List, which was to have been issued at that time. The revised list has not yet been prepared, but it is hoped to issue a new list within a short while. Will all Inspectors in Charge, therefore, who have changed their residence or phone number since July 10, please advise Mr. Froehlich concerning these changes? Any who have taken up residence at a new station within the last three or four months should give special attention to this matter, so that the new list may be complete.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER. VOL. 5. NO. 47.

November 21, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. AN ACHIEVEMENT IN STANDARDIZATION OF CONTAINERS.

On return from his trip to Jacksonville, Fla., H. A. Spilman brought the following report of a notable achievement in the standardization of crates:-

For several years New York lettuce growers have used three different sizes of the 2-dozen lettuce crate. Still another size was used in Florida. As many of the New York crates are made in the South, the mills had to be prepared to make four sizes of lettuce crates. Last spring the New York Vegetable Growers' Association appointed a committee, representing the lettuce-growing sections of the State, to consider the adoption of one standard crate. This committee agreed on a crate measuring $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 x 19 inches inside.

Following this action, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics took up the matter with the southern manufacturers, asking them to ascertain the possibility of securing the adoption of the same crate for Florida lettuce. As a result, growers from the Manatee section presented a petition to the Standard Container Manufacturers Association, requesting that the New York crate be adopted by them as their standard 2-dozen lettuce crate. The Association at their last meeting, held November 12, voted to take such action. This means the substitution of one crate for the four formerly used.

2a. ONE MILLION DOLLARS PAID TO MAINE POTATO GROWERS.

Twenty-five dollars per acre was the amount of the first advance this season to members of the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange, Caribou, Me., according to information obtained by our Division of Agricultural Cooperation. This was \$10 more than the first advance last year and was sufficient for harvesting the crop. Approximately \$1,000,000 has been distributed. With heavy production and a dull market, the crop is moving slowly and the warehousing department is facing a big problem, due to lack of information as to how much storage is needed.

Shipments by the Exchange to October 11 totaled 1,058 cars, about 1/16 of that portion of the crop which the Exchange controls. Efforts are being made by the sales department to secure wide distribution, and cars have gone as far south as Florida and as far west as Cleveland, Ohio, only 116 cars, or 10%, being sold in Boston, which is usually considered the principal outlet for Maine potatoes.

A second small distribution was planned for November 15, after which payments are to be based on actual deliveries. A computation will be made, showing the proportion of his crop which each member should deliver each month of the selling season. Each member will be furnished with a table giving this information, and in order to secure the maximum payment each month he must watch this table and deliver his full quota of potatoes to the association.

3a. CALIFORNIA PEARS SOLD BY ADVERTISING.

It is reported by the management of the California Pear Growers' Association, San Francisco, Calif., that the 1924 advertising campaign helped materially in marketing the output handled by the Association. Three kinds of advertising were used: newspaper space, large posters, and store displays. Complete campaigns, including all three kinds of advertising, were conducted in Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Boston. In addition, a beginning was made in the distribution of display material to retail stores in 50 cities, six in New England, seven in the Middle Atlantic States, and 37 in the North Central States. About 18,000,000 copies of the newspapers, carrying the California pear advertisements, were circulated, and 60,000 pieces of store displays were distributed.

In commenting upon the advertising, the president of the Association said: "We have found it better to run large ads. once a week than small ads. twice a week. It costs less and brings better results. We gauge the attention by the number of requests for recipe books."

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 15:

Page 310 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.

311 - Idaho Lettuce Prices Good, - by G. E. Prince.

312 - Apple Season in Virginia, - by G. B. Fiske and R. R. Pailthorp.
- Grapes in Western New York, - by G. B. Fiske.

320 - Prices of American Apples on British Markets, week ending Nov. 8

TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES cannot afford NOT to read every word of the D.L. each week. It is essential to your fullest knowledge and your highest efficiency.

CLERKS and TYPISTS also should read the entire D.L. regularly. It will broaden your vision, and help you to see your job as an important part of the Service.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CELERY VARIETIES AND CONTAINERS.

Until two or three years ago Golden Self-Blanching and Golden Heart were the chief varieties of celery on the market. It was generally understood that these were only different names for the same variety, eastern and southern growers calling their celery "Golden Self-Blanching" and California producers preferring the name "Golden Heart." In our celery market reports, the varieties have been grouped on the above basis.

Recently, however, several strains of easy blanching celery have been grown, and in the West some of this has been sold as Golden Heart. Then, there is the so-called "Green Top" celery, shipped from Florida after the Golden Self-Blanching crop has moved, and the "New French Strain," which is a strain of the Golden Self-Blanching but with much more slender stems.

Apparently celery is rarely sold by varieties, and, to avoid further trouble between the terms "Golden Self-Blanching" and "Golden Heart," you may omit in the wires to Washington any reference to varieties except when the stock is definitely not one of the two varieties just given. This will be embodied in the heading of our celery bulletins at Washington as follows:

NOTE: UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL QUOTATIONS ARE ON STOCK OF GOOD MERCHANTABLE QUALITY AND CONDITION AND REFER TO THE GOLDEN HEART OR GOLDEN SELF-BLANCHING TYPE, SHIPPED IN THE ROUGH.

The same idea should be incorporated in the heading of all bulletins which include celery reports.

As California and Oregon both ship in the same type of container, and as other States than New York use the so-called New York crate, MAC can be decoded as simply "crates," MAP as "full crates," and MAJ as "two-thirds crates," regardless of the State from which they come. "OREGON MACAB VOMIG" would then be decoded "Oregon, crates \$5.00-5.50," and "MICHIGAN MAPAB VEXIG" would be written "Michigan, full crates \$4.00-4.50."

Do not include washed celery in the report to Washington, unless it was washed at the point of shipment. It will be unnecessary to include the phrase "in the rough" in the wires to Washington, as this will be taken care of by the heading given in the third paragraph of this article.

2b. REVIEW OF STRAWBERRY SEASON IN NEW YORK CITY.

On October 31, the New York office distributed a 4-page summary of the 1924 strawberry season in that market. Weekly carlot receipts are shown by rail and boat for each State of origin. The total this season was 3,369 cars. An elaborate table shows for each day of the season the weather conditions, total strawberry receipts, and then the arrivals from each important State and prevailing prices for berries from that State. Total carlot shipments by States of origin are given for the last eight years. A final table presents the 1924 shipments by weeks and by States, showing the gradually increasing supply.

IF YOU EVER RECEIVE BLANK (UNPRINTED) PAGES IN YOUR COPY OF THE D.L.,
PLEASE ADVISE THE WASHINGTON OFFICE.

3b. FLORIDA CITRUS DEAL WELL UNDER WAY.

The following information was received from W. H. Hall, of the Orlando office, under date of November 15:- "The shipping season of both oranges and grapefruit is getting well under way, and it is expected that, within the next two or three weeks, heavy shipments will go forward to take care of the Christmas holiday trade. Oranges are running very heavily to small sizes, 250's and smaller, with many 324's. The 176's and larger are scarce and bringing a good premium over the small sizes. The market has been declining steadily, particularly on the small sizes, and a point has been reached where some of the shippers doubt the advisability of continuing shipments of anything smaller than 288's, and even this is a doubtful size.

"Through an agreement by the principal shippers to discontinue shipments of grapefruit from October 31 until November 10, the market was temporarily steadied, as shipments fell off more than 50%. However, since the termination of the agreement, daily shipments have again passed the 100-car mark, and this seems to be generally considered the danger point; and yet, to move the estimated crop, it will mean that a daily movement of 100 cars or more will be required.

"On Thursday evening, Nov. 13, I attended a meeting of the Fruitman's Club, held at Winter Haven, and approximately 80% of the Florida citrus tonnage was represented. It is a splendid working organization and undoubtedly is accomplishing a great deal, but it seems that there are some large dealers and growers outside the Club. Strenuous efforts are being made to line up the outsiders, and, if this is accomplished, it would seem that the citrus people will be in a position to cope with problems which heretofore have been largely or wholly uncontrollable. At this meeting, one of the large shippers criticized the Government's shipment figures, but, after an explanation as to the means and methods by which these statistics are obtained, it was practically the unanimous opinion among the 50 members present that they should accept the Government figures as the only authentic source of information.

"In an attempt to escape or at least lessen the serious market conditions confronting the orange shippers, the Club voted to confine future shipments, insofar as it is possible, to the following sizes: Not to exceed 10% 250's, not to exceed 5% 288's, and nothing smaller than 288's. It is believed that, if this agreement is fairly well lived-up-to, the shipments will be held far below what they would be if all sizes were shipped."

4b. SPECIAL REVIEW OF CALIFORNIA GRAPE DEAL.

On November 14, the last day the Fresno field station was operated, C. E. Schultz issued an excellent six-page review of the California grape season to mid-November. Three of the pages are devoted largely to text and the remainder to statistical tables. An outline map of California is included, the State being divided into the three shipping districts for grapes, and the number of cars forwarded this season and last year indicated for each district. The paragraph headings of this review, which are given below, show the general contents of the report: "Season Starts Early." "Grape Crop Estimates Now Approximate the September 1 Forecast." "Shipments Heavier Than Expected." "No Car Shortage This Year." "Quality Better Than Last Year." "Growers Benefited by Speculation This Season." "Higher Prices Offset by Reduced Yields." "Heavy Movement of Raisin Varieties Fresh." "Black Juice Grape Growers Generally Realize Good Returns." "Premium for Alicantes Reduced." "Fall Rain Damage Most Serious in Northern District." "Transportation Costs."

5b. ADDITIONAL PUBLICITY FOR LOS ANGELES REPORTS.

The Los Angeles office has started a special monthly statistical report, incorporating many of the data formerly published in connection with the daily bulletins. The first issue contains a tabulation of carlot shipments of 30 fruits and vegetables for the month of September this year and last, showing the movement of each product from the respective States of California, Arizona and Nevada. October unloads of a dozen products in Los Angeles are given by States of origin, and there is a table showing the October 30 holdings of apples, onions and potatoes in California storage houses. The reverse side of the sheet gives November 1 crop estimates by principal States for the fruits and vegetables of most interest in California.

A feature article in the "Los Angeles Sunday Times" for November 9 is based very largely on Mr. Harris' recent summary of the California tomato season. It is an illustrated story, entitled "Growing and Marketing Fall Tomatoes in Southern California." The rotogravure section of that paper also included a lot of interesting pictures of tomato fields and packing houses.

A special Truck Crop Report, issued by the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates on November 15, contains a half-page on California lettuce by H. A. Harris. Acreage figures are given for the important lettuce sections outside Imperial Valley.

6b. TRUCK CROP REPORT.

The Truck Crop Report, mentioned in the preceding paragraph, also includes data on Arizona lettuce, and crop notes on cabbage, beans, celery, lettuce, spinach and kale in the southeastern States from Virginia to Florida.

7b. GARLIC BEING IMPORTED FROM MANCHURIA.

In a letter of November 11, C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, tells of the imported garlic being received in that market:

"The first cargo of Manchurian garlic was received here on November 8. There were approximately two carloads in the shipment. This is the first garlic imported into San Francisco since 1920. Importers are asking 5¢ per pound, duty paid, which is considerably lower than the California product. The California garlic is practically cleaned up. The crop this year was considerably less than in former years, and growers are holding their remaining supplies at 14¢-15¢ per pound.

"With the wide difference in price between the California and oriental garlic, buyers are reluctant to take hold of any of the imported stock, due primarily to the fact that there is a considerable amount lost in this product. At the time of arrival the quality is very good, but evidently the change in climatic conditions has a tendency toward evaporation and, after being held for several months, the weight will decrease as much as 50% without the garlic going into any decay whatever."

- IT PAYS TO KEEP INFORMED. READ THE DIVISION LETTER. -

8b. SPECIAL RELEASE ON NEW YORK CELERY SITUATION.

On November 17, A. E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, distributed to his mailing list a two-page mimeographed release on the celery situation in western New York. It is a very complete report on this year's crop and shipments, combined with a historical review of New York celery. References also are made to the California celery prospects and to the outlook in Florida. Parts of this article will appear in "Crops and Markets."

9b. CELERY SITUATION IN CALIFORNIA.

Replying to an inquiry from the Rochester office, H. A. Harris, at Los Angeles, wired as follows: "Southern California celery not seriously affected by drought. Acreage slightly larger than last year. Shipments will depend on market, as stock can be held several months. Northern celery generally in good condition, except a few fields showing black rot where water was withheld on account river low and salty from ocean. Peak movement expected between middle and last of this month; probably will reach 60 cars daily."

10b. STORAGE HOLDINGS IN CALIFORNIA.

In a recent statistical report, H. A. Harris included the following figures on storage holdings in California:-

Product.	Oct. 30, 1924.	Oct. 15, 1924.	Oct. 30, 1923.
Apples (boxes).....	1,257,805	738,587	1,531,189
Onions (sacks).....	127,294	114,475	311,555
Potatoes (sacks).....	59,481	52,057	14,567

11b. CHANGE ON "NA-NE" (ONIONS) PAGE OF CODE. (Effective November 28)

On the "NA-NE" (Onions) page of the code, cross out the meaning "20-qt. lug boxes" for NEK and add the following:

NEK $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum

This is to take care of the situation in New York State and other places, where onions are being sold on the basis of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch minimum size only, without reference to the other specifications of the U.S. grades.

12b. SUMMARY OF WESTERN POTATO DEALS.

During the past week, John D. Snow's summary of WESTERN POTATO DEALS, Season 1923-24, has been distributed. This is a 39-page report, and covers the potato deals of western Nebraska, the San Luis Valley of Colorado, and the Greeley district. Elaborate tables are included of potato production, shipments by stations in the two States, shipments by States, f.o.b. prices, prices to jobbers, destinations, unloads in principal markets, etc. Special attention is given to the shipping-point inspection service, the seed potato situation in Nebraska, and there is a table of freight rates from western potato-shipping points.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince (Mrs. L. B. Gerry after Dec. 1)	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 413 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Pears* Celery Apples Cabbage Onions Peaches* Potatoes	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 18 Sept. 22 Sept. 29	Nov. 1* Jan. 10 Apr. 1 Mar. 7 Feb. 28 Oct. 13* Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 18	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 22	Apr. 30
ORLANDO, FLA.** 311 Smith Bldg. Mail: P.O.Box 188	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 21	Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg. Mail: P.O.Box 83	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions	Nov. 3 Nov. 3 Nov. 3	Apr. 30 Nov. 11* Jan. 31

** State Department cooperating.

* Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. L. Sutton and R. H. Lamb - in Chicago office.

F. H. Scruggs - in Baltimore office.

C. E. Schultz - in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. "FAIRLY SMOOTH" FOR "SMOOTH" IN NO. 1 CITRUS GRADES.

Mr. Conklin explained at recent conferences that the Florida Citrus Exchange No. 1 grades provided that fruit should be "fairly smooth." U.S. grades said "smooth." The interpretation of the term "smooth" as applied at shipping point, however, had the same meaning as the term "fairly smooth" used by the Exchange. In order to prevent any misunderstandings, it has been decided to change our Federal No. 1 citrus grades to correspond more nearly with our actual practice in making inspections. All No. 1 citrus grades, therefore, should be changed to read "fairly smooth" instead of "smooth." Note carefully that this applies only to the No. 1 grades.

→ 2c. CERTIFICATION OF WEIGHTS.

Complaint has been received from a California shipper that one of our receiving-point inspectors certified as actual weight the guaranteed net weight as shown on the label. The shipper claims that the packages actually contained three or four pounds more than the guaranteed minimum and stated that the receiver complained of shortweight, citing the receiving-point certificate as evidence. Net weight in packages should never be mentioned on the certificate except as a quotation of the label or marking, under PRODUCTS INSPECTED AND DISTINGUISHING MARKS, or in case specific request has been made to show the net weight of the packages. In the latter case, actual weights must be taken and average can be reported under CONDITION OF PACK. The net weight, as marked on the package, should never be referred to except as a quotation of the label or other marks on the container.

3c. WORM DAMAGE IN PEANUTS.

Dr. G. B. Ramsey, B.P.I. Pathologist located in Chicago, presents the following results of his investigations concerning worm damage in peanuts:-

"In peanut inspections at the Chicago office, an appreciable damage due to worms has been observed in several cars. Some worms and eggs were evident at time of inspection, but greatest damage occurs in the stored samples. About 12 samples in this office were so badly worm-eaten and so full of worms and moths that it became necessary to discard the samples before the 60 days were up.

"The worms present are the larvae of the Mediterranean Flour Moth. This is one of the most destructive insects which infests stored flour, bran, and numerous cereal foods. So far as I have been able to find out, this insect has not been reported as infesting peanuts, but it apparently finds them very good food. The worms are white in color and are about one-half inch long. Fine black dots and scattering hairs covering the body of the worm are characteristic of this species. These worms not only cause damage by eating the products but also by spinning quantities of silk which mats the materials together, thus making them worthless.

"The moth stage of this insect is dull gray in color and expands about one inch. Hundreds of these moths hatched out in our stored samples of peanuts. Breeding goes on continuously in ordinary situations."

LETTERS FROM INSPECTORS AT SHIPPING POINTS, TELLING OF CONDITIONS IN THEIR PRODUCING SECTIONS, ARE ESPECIALLY GOOD FOR THE D.L.

4c. WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR COLORADO INSPECTORS.

From the office of E. F. McKune, 329 Capitol Bldg., Denver, a type-written Weekly News Letter is again being issued this season to District Supervisors and Inspectors in Charge. Vol. 2, No. 1, was dated November 15.

This year, the Standardization and Inspection Service in Colorado has three District Supervisors (Messrs. Cauble, Sanborn, and Dyer); four Inspectors in Charge; nine inspectors on a salary basis, and six inspectors on a fee basis. About 145 cars were inspected during the week ending November 9, and the total this season to date is 6,335 cars, or 1,100 more than to the same time last year. Largest increases are in the Delta and Monte Vista districts. The following paragraphs are taken from the Colorado Weekly News Letter.

5c. LETTUCE INSPECTIONS IN COLORADO.

The head lettuce inspections, which promised to keep the Colorado staff busy last spring, failed to materialize to any great extent. About 356 cars were inspected. This work was widely-scattered and, as a result, lettuce inspections were made at a loss in all districts.

6c. POTATO SITUATION IN THE GREELEY DISTRICT.

The potatoes in the Greeley district, due to late rains, have developed an unusually large amount of growth cracks and hollow hearts. These blemishes are causing the inspectors in that district a great deal of trouble. In some cases, as high as 40% of the potatoes have been found to contain specimens affected with hollow heart.

7c. ROCKY FORD CANTALOUPE INSPECTIONS.

Neal D. Sanborn, who supervised the cantaloupe inspection work in the Rocky Ford district this season, recently reported as follows:

"The season opened with the shipping of the first car of cantaloupes on August 19, and closed with the issuing of the last certificate on October 29. The deal proved quite successful. Federal inspection was loyally supported this season and will likely be requested another year. The quality of the cantaloupes shipped was the best in many years and will go far toward putting Colorado back on the map (as of old), as the home of good cantaloupes. In spite of very poor market conditions and adverse weather in the East, the crop still sold at a profit, due entirely to the fact that the melons were of such fine quality. Total number of cars inspected for the season was 3,172." Further details were given in our Division Letter for November 7, page 510.

8c. REVISED GRADES FOR CITRUS FRUITS.

With this Division Letter, all inspectors will receive copies of the revised U. S. Grades for Citrus Fruits (Florida). These supersede the grades distributed some time ago.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Messrs. Sherman, Robb and Patton left on Wednesday night for St. Louis, where they held a conference today with representatives of leading railroads entering that city. These carriers are considering a much larger use of the Federal Inspection Service in St. Louis, and effort will be made to reach an agreement in the matter at this meeting. The Washington representatives all expect to be back at their desks by Monday morning.

Leaving Washington next Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Samson will proceed to Sacramento, Calif., stopping for perhaps a day en route at Chicago. Mr. Samson early in December will attend an important conference of California fruit growers at Sacramento, representing this Department in suggestions which may be made for a possible revision of the State apple-grading law. On this trip he will visit branch offices and field stations in California and the Northwest particularly, conferring with standardization men and supervising inspectors at principal shipping points. Conferences also will be held with State officials and with growers, shippers, and members of the trade. Mr. Samson may not return to Washington until December 20.

There is a possibility that Mr. Stillwell will be one of the Bureau's representatives at the annual meeting of State Marketing Officials, to be held in Chicago the first week of December. Members of the Chicago staff also may attend some of these sessions.

After closing the Fresno field station of the Market News Service, C. E. Schultz proceeded to the San Francisco office, arriving there on Tuesday. A few days will be spent at San Francisco and Sacramento, and then Mr. Schultz will make the Los Angeles office his headquarters for several weeks.

Offices especially interested in the distribution of apples will find valuable material in the mimeographed report on "Margins and Costs in the Marketing of Washington Apples, 1922-23," recently issued by the Cost of Marketing Division in this Bureau.

The Portland office is now issuing a special potato market report, including destinations of all shipments from the southern Washington and western Oregon territory.

The furlough of Mrs. D. S. Ireland, head clerk of the Portland office, has been extended until January.

G. E. Prince, who has been in charge of the news service on apples at Spokane, Wash., probably will leave the Northwest about December 1, and report for further duty in the East, after taking a period of leave. En route to Washington, Mr. Prince will stop at Chicago a few days. The remaining field work on the checking of apple f.o.b. reports in the Pacific Northwest will be handled by inspectors at leading shipping points. Mrs. L. B. Gerry, who is permanently in the Spokane office, will succeed Mr. Prince in general charge of the market news work.

F. J. Baehler has now reached Baton Rouge, La., and assumed his duties as Federal Supervisor of standardization and inspection work in that State.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

B. E. Shaffer went to New York City on Tuesday, where he will assist for a while with local inspections, investigating at the same time some of the standardization and grading problems.

Another training class of seven men was started last Monday at the Experiment Station, Orlando, Fla. Including the Supervising Inspectors, there are already about 90 inspectors engaged in the Florida shipping-point work.

N. C. Farnworth drove up to Sanford, Fla., the early part of this week to look after the vegetable inspection prospects in that section. It is expected that work will be started at Sanford in the near future.

L. M. Rhodes, Commissioner of the Florida State Marketing Bureau, and Robert Bier both went from Jacksonville to Orlando on Monday, for an important meeting with representatives of the Florida Citrus Exchange. O. G. Strauss, in addition to these two men, also went to Tampa for further conferences with the Exchange.

An interesting conference of Supervising Inspectors was held in the Orlando office last Sunday. It is probable that similar meetings will be arranged during the shipping season in Florida.

Dr. D. H. Rose, of B. P. I., was at Orlando and other important points last week, conferring with Federal and State officials regarding certain phases of the Florida citrus fruit industry.

On account of the illness of W. F. Plummer, the New Haven inspection work is being handled for the present by W. E. Lewis, who went from New York City to New Haven for this purpose.

W. D. Googe, in charge of the Fort Worth market reporting work, will be on leave from November 24 to 29, during which period M. C. Gregory, the local inspector, will handle Mr. Googe's duties.

Two exceptionally illuminating articles will be found on page 312 of "Crops and Markets" for November 15. These stories give some of the outstanding results of G. B. Fiske's recent investigational trips to Virginia and western New York. F. & V. employees will do well to read "Crops and Markets" regularly. Space does not permit the printing of all this excellent material in both the Division Letter and the other paper; so please observe the weekly index to "Crops and Markets" articles, which appear in each D. L.

Thursday, November 27, is THANKSGIVING DAY, and will be observed as a holiday in all offices. It is likely that no Division Letter will be issued next week. In that event, the next Letter will be dated December 5.

The Tampa address of G. R. Warren has been changed from 707 E. Washington Street to 336 Hyde Park Avenue, Tampa, Fla. Please make this change on the Florida-map insert sheet in last week's D.L.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5. NO. 48.

December 5, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)

NO DIVISION LETTER WAS ISSUED FOR NOVEMBER 28.

1a. STANDARDIZATION WORK GROWS STEADILY IN IMPORTANCE.

Standardization of farm products is rapidly attaining national and international importance. Federal grades are now available for 30 kinds of fruits and vegetables, one or more of which grades have been adopted by 25 States for use in intrastate as well as in interstate commerce.

The standardization program of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics was started in 1915, with the establishment of a telegraphic market news service covering most of the leading consuming markets in the country. Federal grades were prepared for Bermuda onions and potatoes, use of the latter being made compulsory by the Food Administration. The value of the potato grades was found to be such that, with the termination of the Food Administration, the trade continued the voluntary use of the grades, and it is estimated that at least 80% of the total shipments of potatoes in the United States are now quoted on the basis of the Federal grades.

Further stimulus was given the standardization program when the Food Products Inspection Service was started in 1917. This service provided for Federal inspection of shipments at receiving points, when such inspection should be requested by any of the persons interested in the shipments. By 1921, Federal grades had been recommended for 13 different fruits and vegetables, and had been widely adopted by the States.

The following year the inspection service was extended to shipping points, and a tremendous demand developed for additional standards for fruits and vegetables. The grades are now being recognized abroad, as evidenced by the trade preference given American products that have been officially inspected and for which inspection certificates as to quality and condition have been issued.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 22:

Page 326 - Special paragraphs on apples in the weekly review.

327 - More Potomac Valley Apples Stored. (based on review by F. H. Scruggs)

328 - Wisconsin Potatoes Harvested, - by W. H. Mosier.

- Idaho Apples Nearly Shipped, - by G. E. Prince.

- Oregon Celery Profitable, - by R. L. Ringer.

336 - Prices of American Apples in British Markets, week ending Nov. 15.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 29:

Page 342 - Special paragraphs on carrots in the weekly review.

343 - Idaho Potato Movement Active, - by G. D. Clark.

344 - Celery in Western New York, - by A. E. Prugh.

- Idaho Apples Nearly Shipped, - by G. E. Prince.

352 - Prices of American Apples in British Markets, week ending 11/22.

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page 537.

4a. NOVEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

On the front cover of the November Supplement, it should be noticed that the final crop reports for the year will be released at 4 P.M., Tuesday, December 16. In addition to the usual crop reports and tables of farm prices, attention is called to the following material:

- Page 362 - General Review of Crop Yields and Quality of Crops.
 - Southern Cabbage Crop of the Spring of 1925.
- 364 - Comments on this year's potato crop.
- 365 - Comments on the apple, pear and peanut crops.
- 366 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits for September, 1924, etc.
- 332 - Cold Storage Report for November 1 on apples, pears, onions, frozen and preserved fruits.
- 383 - Record-Breaking Grape Shipments. (a review of the grape season, with tables showing shipments, f.o.b. prices and city prices)
- 384 - Carload Shipments by States of Origin during September, etc.
- 390 - Review of World Agriculture.
 - Exports for the period July to September, 1923 and 1924, of fresh and dried apples, prunes, apricots and raisins.
- 391 - The Price Situation, with table of index numbers.

5a. SPECIAL BULLETIN ON POTATOES.

The Bureau of Railway Economics, Transportation Bldg., Washington, D. C., issued under date of October, 1924, special Bulletin No. 5 on "Potatoes." It is a statistical study of prices in relation to transportation costs. The entire study aims to prove "that prices paid to producer, wholesaler, and retailer show a marked fluctuation for the various kinds and grades, although the freight rates remained unchanged."

Many of the data are taken from crops reports, shipment reports, and market information gathered by our own Bureau. On the front of the bulletin is a diagram showing the sources of potatoes unloaded in Chicago during 1923. Frequent excerpts are presented from Farmers' Bulletin 1317, "Marketing Main-Crop Potatoes," and from Farmers' Bulletins 753, 1050, and 1064. General headings in the report are: "Potato Production by States." "Prices Paid Producer for White Potatoes." "Wholesale Prices at New York and Chicago." "Retail Prices." "Freight Rates to Representative Consuming Markets." "Unloads of Potatoes in 31 Cities by States of Origin."

The prices to producers were obtained by railroad agents at 37 points of origin in Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho and Washington. Retail prices were secured by railroad agents in 32 leading cities and cover more than 3,000 retail stores. No attempt has been made in this office to check the accuracy of the figures or the truth of the conclusions, but it is noticed that the general period covered by the price information extends from October, 1923, to September, 1924, and therefore includes parts of two seasons. This makes the spread of prices (or high and low prices) somewhat different than if the data were restricted to one season.

6a. NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATE IN POTATO INSPECTIONS.

Cooperative arrangements for the inspection of potatoes at certain shipping points close to the border line between New York and Pennsylvania have been made by the New York State Bureau of Markets, Albany, and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, Harrisburg. By such arrangements, the most economical use of field forces can be made for both Bureaus, and it is now possible to reach some stations where the service otherwise could not be offered.

7a. TRUCK CROP SITUATION IN SOUTH TEXAS.

Under date of December 1, J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Radio-Market News Service, released the following information on Texas truck crops:

The Texas winter vegetable movement is starting early this year, shipments of cabbage, beets and carrots, spinach and tomatoes at present rolling in straight and mixed cars, along with a brisk movement of grapefruit and a somewhat light wind-up of sweet potatoes. To November 26, a total of 11 cars of fall tomatoes, three of spinach, 80 of sweet potatoes, five of cabbage, 23 of mixed vegetables, and 59 of grapefruit had been shipped to market. This movement may be considered quite remarkable, for, to the same time a year ago, there had been no shipments of either mixed vegetables or cabbage, only six cars of grapefruit had been rolled and four of tomatoes, and the spinach season was so dormant that carlot shipments were not attempted until around December 6.

Cabbage: The outlook for the cabbage deal this year is strictly a gambler's one, and only future developments will reveal whether the 23% increase in Lower Rio Grande Valley plantings was a step in the right direction or not. Considering poor seed germination, it is altogether possible that the forecasted 9,700 acres may be reduced. If that many acres materialize, it would be the greatest Valley acreage since 1922, when the record plantings of 12,900 acres were harvested but marketed at very low prices. This season's increases have been made in view of the possibility of a repetition of the severe weather of a year ago, which cut back the crop in Florida and the Carolinas and gave Texas an open door to the green cabbage market. Should this break not favor Texas this season, the deal will not be in a very strong position, for Florida alone has a 12% larger cabbage acreage and it is likely that normal crops will be started in the Carolinas, Alabama, and Mississippi. In the late or main-crop cabbage deals, New York's 40% increase is to be considered, offset in part by lighter production in Wisconsin.

Spinach: First rollings of spinach this year, nearly three weeks ahead of normal, probably are prophetic of what may be expected this season. Although first cars were reported from the Crystal City neighborhood of the Winter Garden district, greatly increased plantings are understood to have been made in the Lower Valley, and this crop should be available early for market. The remarkable prices of a year ago probably will tend to increase the spinach acreage. Weather conditions, however, are already having their influence against any expansion of the acreage, droughty conditions at Austin, in particular, so holding back the crop that little or nothing is visible to indicate the plantings made nearly a month ago. A few hundred acres are now being put to the pump in this section. Early advice from Virginia indicates an increase of something like 1,000 acres of spinach there. Movement so far, however, is running about 100 cars less than to the corresponding time in 1923. The eight States shipping at present have rolled a total 780 cars, compared with 967 a year ago.

Small Vegetables: There is everything to indicate a good supply of beans, beets, carrots and other small vegetables from the Lower Rio Grande Valley, for seed houses report their stocks well cleaned up and experiences of the past few years have shown the mixed-car business a profitable one. Reporting competing States advise of either flood damage to early vegetable plantings or poor yields. As the season has been most favorable in Texas, it is probable that a considerable tonnage will be available in the near future. Last year the Lower Valley had a total of 2,030 acres of carrots and 1,780 acres of beets. Bean plantings in Cameron County were between 1,500 and 1,700 acres; lettuce in this section called for 650 acres and white potatoes 3,000 acres.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NEW APPLE CODE PAGE BEING DISSEMINATED.

Copies of the revised apple code page are being mailed with this D. L. to all market and field offices. If you need additional sheets, they will be supplied on request. Destroy the old pages immediately, and substitute the new ones in all code books. The new page will be effective December 15.

In the revised sheet, varietal spelling is generally in accordance with trade usage. A few varieties have been added and one or two dropped.

The original code symbols have been retained so far as possible. This has been carried to the extent of placing certain varieties, such as Spy, Transparent, Wagener, and White Pearmain, out of their alphabetical order, so as to retain the original code prefixes. The definite changes follow: Black Twig has been changed from AD to AK, Arkansas Black from AF to AD, Rhode Island Greening from EB to IJ, Fall Pippin from AV to AT, Fameuse from IS to AV, Oldenburg from AS to IF and Ortley from IF to IG.

Notice also the spelling of "Bellflower," and the "u" instead of "e" in last syllable of "Spitzenburg."

2b. RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING NOVEMBER, 1924.

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Tele-graphic Errors	Un-classified Services to Markets	Un-necessary Services by Wash.	Un-answered Services	Voluntary Corrections (see** note)
Atlanta	5	1	2	1	1			
Baltimore	16	9	3		2		2	3
Boston	19	7	4	2	3		3	1
Chicago	66	30	11	7	14		4	6
Cincinnati	19	6	4	5	4			
Cleveland								1
Fort Worth	12	3		5	1		3	
Kansas City	13	5		5	1	1	1	
Memphis	3				1		2	
Minneapolis*	6	4	1		1			1
New York	53	20	5	17	6		5	12
Philadelphia	23	13	1	3	5		1	4
Pittsburgh	27	7	3	11	6			5
St. Louis	21	7	2	5	6		1	2
Washington								12
NOV. TOTAL	283	112	36	61	51	1	22	47
OCT. TOTAL	372	143	56	80	74	1	13	77

*Including St. Paul. ** NOTE: Not included in total figure for services.

The record for November shows a decided improvement over October.

THE LIST OF TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF THE MARKET NEWS SERVICE IS NOT PUBLISHED IN THIS D.L., BECAUSE NO CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE IN LIST.

3b. CHANGES ON LETTUCE PAGE OF CODE. (EFFECTIVE DEC. 11)

On "MU" (Lettuce) page of the code, change

MUF California crates to read
MUF Crates

and MUG New York crates to read
MUG 2-dozen crates

Several States other than California and New York use the crates which we have been describing as California and New York crates, and some confusion has resulted in the writing of our lettuce reports. Hereafter, it will be sufficient, for example, to write, "Oregon, crates Iceberg-type" for the large-sized western crates, instead of "Oregon, California crates Iceberg-type."

4b. LETTUCE PROSPECTS IN THE IMPERIAL VALLEY.

H. A. Harris, in a letter of November 18 from Los Angeles, wrote as follows regarding the Imperial Valley lettuce situation:-

"I have been waiting for some time for an authoritative estimate on the lettuce acreage in the Imperial Valley, but everything is guess-work yet. Estimates range all the way from 18,000 to 22,000 acres, with planting yet under way. However, it is doubtful if there are more than 18,000 acres planted, and the usual losses by worms and birds probably will cut the effective acreage to 16,000.

"First shipments are expected to move between the 5th and 10th of December, but the movement will be light until the middle of January and heavy shipments likely will come in March. While most of the crop was planted late, growing conditions are said to have been very favorable. The early acreages that will be shipped by Jan. 15th are small and scattered, as they were planted at the time of the greatest water shortage. Several growers were able to plant early lettuce by concentrating all the water they could draw for two or three hundred acres of land on a five or ten acre patch."

5b. PACKAGES NO LONGER TO BE RETURNED TO CALIFORNIA SHIPPERS.

Similar to the action that was taken by Philadelphia dealers some time ago, the following letter of November 29, from Mr. Harris, tells of a recent decision on the part of Los Angeles dealers not to return packages to shippers:

"Beginning December 1, the carlot receivers and jobbers in this market have agreed - with two exceptions - to discontinue the practice of returning the boxes to the shipper. Two firms, who did not enter into this agreement, admit that they may not be able to continue the old practice of selling the various commodities on a net basis, but are going to try it out at any rate.

"It has always been the custom in Los Angeles to sell most commodities on a net basis, making a charge for the box or lug and refunding upon its return. The exceptions to this rule have been Northwestern packed apples, asparagus, packed citrus fruits, and a few other items of similar nature. The position of the trade is that the handling of these boxes represents a considerable item in their cost of operation and they are determined to sell all commodities at a price which will include the cost of the package."

6b. DISCUSSIONS AT FRUIT EXHIBIT IN CALIFORNIA.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, sent the following report of a Fruit Exhibit at Berkeley, Calif. C. E. Schultz happened to be in San Francisco at that time, and accompanied Mr. Hansen to some of these meetings:

"Mr. Schultz and I attended the Fifth Annual Fruit Exhibit of the College of Agriculture of the University of California, held in Berkeley, November 17 to 22. On November 20 a paper submitted by Dr. H. C. Taylor on 'Forecasting Fruit Production' was read by Prof. H. E. Erdman. In the evening of that same date, a debate was held on the f.o.b. auction system, with L. K. Small, President of the Growers & Shippers Auction Company, Los Angeles, on the affirmative, and Wilmer Sieg, Manager of the California Fruit Distributors, on the negative. A discussion was then given on the subject by F. B. Nellis and B. E. Knapp. The work which our Bureau is doing and the figures which we published were used throughout this discussion.

"A debate also was held on 'The Clearing House Idea in Fruit Distribution,' with Prof. Erdman speaking on its possibilities and O. W. Schleussner on its limitations. A later discussion on this subject was given by F. W. Read. The basis for this discussion was the Imperial Valley cantaloupe deal."

7b. PRESQUE ISLE BULLETINS CARRY WEATHER FORECASTS.

During the period just before the freezing weather of November 17, the daily market reports at the Presque Isle station carried the weather forecast for the next 48 hours. These forecasts were received each morning by telegraph, under an arrangement with the Boston office.

Dealers in the Aroostook section claim that this service probably saved them thousands of dollars when the freeze came. Although it was rather late in the season, some shippers were still taking chances and shipping in ordinary-lined cars without heat, and in similar equipment. When the cold wave was reported coming, this practice ceased entirely, and, for two full days before the freeze, all who believed in the forecasts were shipping in heated cars, and were arranging to protect unheated cars in transit.

Although the damage to stock in transit was heavy, dealers state that it likely would have been much greater had not the approaching cold been called directly to their attention by the market reports. People in Aroostook County have been free in their expressions of thanks for this warning, and they give much credit to the Market News Service for this effort to protect them from loss.

Since general attention has been given to protect shipments from cold and the customary procedure for winter shipments has been adopted, these weather forecasts have been discontinued.

8b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARY OF FIELD DEAL.

FLORIDA CELERY SEASON, Jan-Apr., 1924, is the title of a new summary prepared by F. H. Scruggs and distributed the past week. This 13-page report, in addition to the usual field summary features, includes a tabulation of daily celery shipments from Florida during the 1923 and the 1924 seasons. Another table shows the daily f.o.b. prices and general market conditions in the Sanford section. Monthly shipments are given for the season on the basis of shipping stations and counties in Florida, and the distribution is listed by receiving points East and West. Eastern markets took about 3,235 cars of Florida celery, and western markets received 1,954 cars.

9b. USE OF DIAGRAMS IN THE WEEKLY REVIEW.

For the last six weeks, the Washington issue of the Weekly Market Review has carried on the front page a picture or diagram appropriate to the text of the leading paragraph. The Philadelphia office feels that these charts and pictures add enough interest to the Review to warrant copying the diagrams onto the Philadelphia stencil. The stylus artist in that office has been making a good job of this copying, so that the Philadelphia edition of the Review presents a very attractive appearance. Mimeographed copies of the Washington edition are received from the Office of Publications about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, and special copies can be placed in the 4 p.m. mail for any eastern office that may desire this service.

10b. SPECIAL REPORTS AT ROCHESTER OFFICE.

On December 1, A. E. Prugh released a special two-page review of the potato season in western New York and at other important shipping points. In addition to statistical tables, there is a full page of interesting text. Part of this material may be published in an early issue of "Crops and Markets."

All of the four daily reports and the weekly review issued from the Rochester office on Wednesday, November 26, doubtless attracted unusual attention by reason of the attractive heading, appropriate to the Thanksgiving season. Across the top of each sheet the word "THANKSGIVING" appeared in a unique style of lettering, well drawn with a stylus. Below this at the left was a picture of a live turkey. In the center of the heading was the usual outline map of New York State, and at the right the tabulation of carlot shipments of New York fruits and vegetables for the season of 1923-24. This entire special heading occupied only three inches at the top of each stencil.

11b. MAINE POTATOES BEING SHIPPED TO EUROPE.

The daily press of December 1 carried an item to the effect that two men had gone from Presque Isle, Maine, to England as agents for local potato growers and shippers. It is represented that a shortage of potatoes exists in the United Kingdom and these agents will demonstrate to commission merchants there the fine grade of Maine potatoes. In this connection, the following wire was received yesterday from H.S. Stiles, of the Boston office:-

"Maine cooperatives have sent two men to Europe to drum up trade. Proposition uncertain as yet, but Maine expects to ship 50 cars a week the remainder of season, principally to England. One sample car was shipped from Montreal and 10 from Portland recently. All export business is to be done through Portland, none Boston. New England Freight Association is to hold a hearing on the submitted proposal of lower heater charges from Bangor & Aroostook, Maine Central and Canadian Pacific Railroad points to Portland."

12b. SWEET POTATO PRICES ADVANCE IN TEXAS.

After the D.L. for November 21 had gone to press, the following telegram was received from W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office:-

"During the past four days demand for carlots of sweet potatoes has increased materially and prices to jobbers from shippers have climbed from \$3-\$3.25 per cwt. in sacks to \$4.25-\$4.50, and from \$1.75-1.85 in 50-pound crates to mostly \$2.50. Homegrown supplies are reported to be about depleted, the few remaining selling freely at \$3-\$4 per cwt. according to quality."

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. ASSISTANCE TO BE RENDERED BY SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS.

While C. D. Shirley was conducting shipping-point work at St. Ansgar, Iowa, protests from receivers came to several shippers for whom he was inspecting. Mr. Shirley immediately wired these receivers that the cars in question had been inspected and found up to grade; that he was positive of the accuracy of this inspection, but that, if the receiver wished to put up \$12.00, he could secure reinspection by applying to the nearest terminal market inspector.

In each instance the receiver accepted the lots in question without further protest, and it is believed that such action on the part of the shipping-point supervisor will be of assistance to shippers in many instances. This probably is due to the psychological effect of information coming direct from the man who made the inspection rather than coming second-hand through a party whom the receiver feels is naturally prejudiced. It is suggested that all shipping-point supervisors try this plan, whenever protests of receivers on cars which have been inspected under their supervision are called to their attention.

2c. JONATHAN SPOT AND BITTER PIT.

Attention of the Washington office has been called to two or three cases in which it seems that shipping-point certificates covering north-western apples have been reversed because of Jonathan Spot or Bitter Pit. It should be remembered that these defects may have developed after the apples were packed and should be considered as factors of condition. These defects should never be counted against the grade in making a reinspection.

3c. COPIES OF REINSPECTIONS TO BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE SHIPPING-POINTSUPERVISORS

We have received requests from a number of State supervisors for copies of reinspection certificates on cars originally examined in their respective States. Paragraph 114, Part I, Inspectors' Handbook, directs that copies of reinspections be sent to Federal men at shipping points. Please make notation on the margin of your Handbook to "Send also to State Supervisor." We are furnishing a list of the Federal and State men, to whom such copies should be sent. In California and Colorado the supervisors are joint employees, and represent both the Federal and the State Departments. One copy is sufficient in these cases. All copies for Federal supervisors in the State of Washington should be sent to F. E. Bailey, at Spokane, who will distribute them to the proper district supervisors.

4c. SUPPLYING COPIES WHERE ORIGINAL HAS BEEN LOST.

Occasionally requests are received for "second original copies" because of loss of the "first original."

There can be only one original. Parties making application for copies to replace those lost should be given regular copies. It is suggested that the inspector in charge of the office receiving such requests paste on the copies sent out statements similar to the following:

"This is a carbon copy (or true and compared typewritten copy of carbon copy) of certificate _____ covering car _____, copy of which

(number) _____ (car number)

is in the official files of this office."

In case the applicant desires a more official statement, such copies can be certified by the Secretary of Agriculture.

5c. CERTIFYING VARIETY.

Paragraph 42, Part II, Inspectors' Handbook, reads:

"Statement of variety is made as a means of identifying product inspected and is therefore secondary in the certificate, the purpose of which is to state quality and condition. For this reason, inspection should never be made for the specific purpose of certifying as to variety."

It is believed that this statement of policy which has been in effect since the beginning of the Inspection Service should be slightly modified. Variety frequently has an important bearing on quality of any product, and, from this standpoint, variety may be designated on the certificate. While our authority, therefore, may be construed to cover certification of variety, there yet remains question of the advisability of so doing. Receivers frequently take advantage of a technicality of this kind for the purpose of rejecting a shipment, when this is not the real reason for such action. Furthermore, it is very difficult to certify variety with the degree of accuracy which we insist upon in the making of other statements on the certificate. As a matter of general policy, therefore, our practice of the past in this connection should not be changed. If, however, cases arise where there is no doubt in the inspector's mind that the variety is other than that called for in the contract or marked on the packages, and if he feels that an injustice has been done by the substitution, certification of variety may be made, even though no other factors are covered on the certificate. Usually, it is best to issue full certificates in such cases.

If reinspection is requested on account of variety and the inspector finds the lot of different variety than that certified at shipping point, the shipping-point certificate should be "reversed as to variety but sustained as to grade," if the inspection shows the lot to comply with the grade specifications.

6c. REPORT REINSPECTIONS TO SUPERVISOR BEFORE ISSUING CERTIFICATES.

In order to secure uniformity in handling reinspections and to insure accuracy of statements on our certificates covering such important procedure, it is requested that, in the future, facts developed during the reinspection, with suggested statement covering reversal or sustention statement, be reported briefly by wire to the Regional Supervisor and his approval be secured before the applicant is informed of the results of reinspection or the reinspection certificate is issued. This will apply only to reinspections for grade and does not cover second inspections for condition or second inspections requested by the original applicant for the purpose of confirming the shipping-point certificate.

Atlanta, Norfolk, Tampa, Salt Lake City, and Pacific Coast points will report such matters direct to Washington. Other offices will report to Chicago or New York, depending on location.

7c. WRITING OF FRACTIONS ON CERTIFICATES.

It sometimes is very difficult to read fractions on carbon copies of certificates, when the small fractions such as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ are used. It is requested, therefore, that fractions be written as follows: "2 1/2, 3 1/4," etc. ALL TYPISTS please take notice.

8c. MAILING SAMPLES OF PEANUTS TO SUPERVISING INSPECTORS.

Requests for peanut inspections recently have been received from two points at which the offices were not equipped with screens and scales for making such inspections. Samples were mailed to the Chicago office, where the separation was made and certificate issued. In such cases, the sample should be examined by the inspector who draws it, and all split kernels should be separated and placed in a large envelope or separate container and sent along with the main portion of the sample. This is for the purpose of securing an accurate percentage of splits at the time the sample was drawn. If the sample is rough-handled in mailing, the percentage of splits may be appreciably increased and the figures obtained in the office which makes the separation would fail to represent conditions as they were when the sample was drawn. Offices which make inspections of samples received in this way should base statement of splits only on the percentage separated by the inspector who drew the sample.

9c. TAKING TEMPERATURES.

We have received complaints from several shippers that receiving-point inspections do not show temperatures of the products at the time of inspection. The inspector may not see any occasion for taking the temperature of a particular lot at the time of making inspection, but past experience has brought to light so many cases where this point was really of importance that it is thought best to request the taking of temperatures of all lots inspected during the months when there is any possibility of freezing injury. Temperatures should always be reported on lots which are in refrigerator cars or in cold storage, regardless of the season of the year. Temperatures of the product should be taken in all other cases, where there is decay, over-ripeness, or any other unusual condition.

10c. HOLD PEANUT SAMPLES ONLY 30 DAYS.

We have been advised by a number of our offices that no inquiries have ever been received regarding peanut inspections more than 30 days after date of inspection. In the future, therefore, samples need be held only 30 days.

11c. CERTIFYING LATE BLIGHT.

Because of the prevalence of late blight in many of the northern potato-growing sections this year, the question of policy of receiving-point certification of grade of lots affected with this decay has come up. As a matter of general policy, we certify lots up to grade "aside from decay," when the defects exclusive of decay are within the grade tolerance. There are, however, cases of short haul, when temperatures are such as to preclude the possibility of rapid development of a decay like late blight and, in such cases, the inspector may make the flat statement that the lot is not up to grade, when the defects are under 6% but with the decay make more than this amount. This should be done, however, only where the inspector would be willing to go on the witness stand and swear that the decay which has been counted against the grade could not have happened in transit.

12c. HEATER CARS.

Remember the danger from carbon monoxide gas in heated cars. Read paragraphs 16 and 17, Inspectors' Handbook.

13c. CITRUS INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

The Directors of the Florida Citrus Exchange at a recent meeting voted to discontinue general shipping-point inspections of citrus products as an Exchange policy and to permit each association to use the Inspection Service or not, as it saw fit. This change went into effect December 1 and it is impossible at the present time to give a complete list of the sub-exchanges which will continue to use the shipping-point service. Mr. Bier advises by wire that about one-third of the local exchanges have asked for the continuance of the service. We shall try to give a list of these sub-exchanges in the near future. In the meanwhile, watch all cars inspected for marks of previous inspection, and follow closely the daily lists of cars inspected.

14c. INSPECTION WORK BOOKING IN COLORADO.

The 7,000-mark has now been passed in Colorado shipping-point inspections, and it is possible that 8,000 cars will be handled before the holidays. During the week ending November 16, 320 cars were inspected and the following week's total was 305, making the grand total this season to November 23 about 6,960 cars. Monthly totals this season and last are given below:

	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>		<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>
July.....	64	92	September...	1,718	3,001
August...1,114		1,101	October.....	1,948	2,149
			Total....	4,840	6,343

15c. HOLDING HEAD LETTUCE IN STORAGE.

The Colorado Inspection Service is again conducting a series of experiments to determine the length of time which lettuce can be held in storage under favorable conditions. W. E. Leigh, a graduate of the Colorado Agricultural College, has been assigned to the Denver office for training by the U. S. Vocational Training Board, and is at present devoting a part of his time to this research work in the storage of lettuce. Mr. Leigh also is making a selection of bean samples for the State Director of Markets.

16c. COMMODITY REPORTS FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF COLORADO.

The mixed vegetable shipments from around Denver are practically completed, and only an occasional car of root stuff is now being loaded.

A considerable quantity of the cabbage being shipped from northern Colorado has been exposed to severe freezing and, for that reason, it is not possible to grade such lots as U. S. No. 1. Inspectors very often are confronted with loads of cabbage which show from 10% to 100% of heads actually frozen.

Inspectors in the San Luis Valley district report less freezing injury in the potatoes this season than at any time during the last three years. This probably can be accounted for by the fact that more and better storage has been constructed.

Jonathans apples originating in Colorado for the last six weeks have shown a large percentage of internal discoloration. Authorities seem to agree that the trouble is internal breakdown, which has occurred much earlier than usual this season. Similar conditions have been reported from other States.

17c. SEED POTATO SHOW AT COLORADO SPRINGS.

During the third week of November, the Pure Seed Show was held at Colorado Springs. It is understood that E. F. McKune, Federal Supervising Inspector, delivered an address before the potato growers of the State, who attended this year's show in large numbers. There were at least 500 exhibits of seed potatoes, and the judge had difficulty in making a decision.

18c. SEMI-MONTHLY REPORT OF CITRUS INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

For the period November 1 to 15, the following inspections of Florida citrus fruit were made in the sections indicated:

Section.	Grapefruit.	Oranges.	Tangerines.	Mixed Citrus.	Total.
ARCADIA	19	16	1	6	42
AVON PARK	35	23	1	4	63
BRADENTOWN	58	18	0	0	76
COCOA	4	0	0	0	4
CLEARWATER	13	25	0	4	42
DELAND	3	19	2	1	25
FORT MYERS	27	3	0	1	31
HAINES CITY	42	31	1	4	78
LAKELAND	23	26	0	7	56
LEESBURG	7	63	0	1	71
MIAMI	99	0	0	0	99
OCALA	2	29	0	1	32
ORLANDO	7	98	0	7	112
TAMPA	13	41	1	14	69
WINTER HAVEN	34	69	0	16	119
TOTAL, Nov. 1-15...	386	461	6	66	919
TOTAL, Oct. 9-31...	245	52	0	6	303
Grand Total.....	631	513	6	72	1,222

19c. CITRUS FRUIT SHIPMENTS LESS THAN LAST SEASON.

An item in the Florida Weekly News Letter calls attention to the lighter shipments of citrus this season. Up to November 29 inclusive, Florida had shipped 4,263 cars of oranges, compared with 7,550 to the corresponding time in 1923. California had shipped 3,560 cars, compared with 3,226 during the same period last season. Present orange shipments from both States are considerably lighter than a year ago. Florida shipped 33,469 cars of oranges last season. This year's crop is estimated at 1,000,000 boxes more than last season's, which would indicate that approximately 32,000 cars are yet to be moved from that State.

Florida's grapefruit shipments to November 29 totaled 3,938 cars, as against 5,056 to the same time last year. Total grapefruit output last season was 19,338 cars. This year's crop in Florida is estimated to be about 600,000 boxes heavier than the 1923 crop, so that approximately 16,000 cars are still to be marketed.

From the above figures, it is apparent that heavier shipments of both oranges and grapefruit will be required, if the crops are to be moved within the usual shipping period. Florida's heaviest output this season was 199 cars of oranges on November 29, whereas on November 22, 1923, the total was 404 cars and for a number of days during the last half of November and the first half of December, 1923, shipments ranged around 300 cars daily. California's shipments also were correspondingly heavy last season.

20c. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM FLORIDA.

- Meetings of supervising inspectors in Florida were held in the following cities on the dates named: Winter Haven, Nov. 17; Lakeland, Nov. 18; Haines City, Nov. 19; Avon Park, Nov. 20; Arcadia, Nov. 21, and Orlando, Nov. 22. A thorough discussion of grades and general policies was indulged in, and it is planned to hold similar meetings from time to time throughout the season.

- On account of unfavorable market conditions, many of the packing houses recently were shut down for several days and a few were still closed at last report.

- The inspection training classes have been discontinued for the present at least. N. C. Farnworth, Supervising Inspector in charge of the vegetable work, says that the training of inspectors is not the "snap" it may appear to be to the fellow who is on the outside and looking in. He reports informally that he is "glad to get out again in the open and hear the birds sing."

- Chase & Company have announced their intention of adopting the inspection service in Florida, but the amount of tonnage that they will want handled has not yet been definitely decided.

- A large grower of cucumbers in the Winter Garden Section has requested Federal-State inspection for his entire crop.

21c. CORRECTION IN BUREAU BRANCH-OFFICE DIRECTORY.

Through a clerical error, the names of E. F. McKune and Paul A. Cauble were reversed in the November 15 issue of the Branch Office Directory. Please change your copy, placing Mr. McKune in charge of Denver inspection office.

22c. NEW ADDRESS LIST OF INSPECTORS.

Under date of December 1 there was mailed to each inspector a copy of the revised address list. Notify the Washington office, if your copy failed to reach you, and please advise us promptly of any errors or omissions in the list, so that corrections may be published without delay.

On page 4 of the list, you will observe a new office - TAMPA, FLA. While Tampa usually is thought of as a shipping-point inspection office, permission recently was given Mr. Warren to make terminal or receiving-point inspections there also, and for that reason Tampa has been included with the other receiving-point inspection markets.

23c. SALES INCREASED BY BETTER GRADING.

Increased sales through careful grading and the use of branded sacks are reported by the Belleville Cooperative Potato Marketing Association, at Belleville, Ill., one of the locals of the Illinois Fruit Exchange. About 30 cars of Illini Bluff Brand Cobblers were shipped during August and September, 21 of which were repeat orders. Each sack of potatoes in these cars graded U. S. No. 1 and was of the standard weight. The potatoes are graded and sacked at a local cooperative grain elevator and expenses of marketing are estimated about 38¢, divided as follows: grading and loading, 12¢; dues to local association 3¢; sacks, 10¢ each, dues to the Illinois Fruit Exchange, 13¢. The last item includes the State Inspector's charge, also freight and sales service.

24c. VIRGINIA APPLE INSPECTION SERVICE SHOWS RESULTS.

Inspection plus extensive advertising did much this season in placing Virginia apples permanently before the eyes of the consuming public. Five hundred growers contracted for the inspection of approximately 450,000 barrels of apples, of which more than 220,000 barrels were actually inspected. Much of the fruit would not pass the requirements for the U. S. No. 1 grade which was used by the inspectors, and consequently many growers packed only a portion of their crop under inspection. However, the results this year show a decided increase over the 69,000 barrels inspected in 1923, and 32,243 barrels in 1922.

The Apple Inspection Service, directed cooperatively by the State Horticultural Society, the State Division of Markets and the Extension Service of the Virginia Agricultural College, was organized by rings, according to county boundaries. Growers paid all expenses of this work by means of a charge not to exceed 6¢ per barrel, plus 1¢ for advertising. The average cost, however, amounted to about 4¢ per barrel. This money paid the expenses of inspection and the printing of a complete list of growers, whose apples were being inspected, in five issues of the New York Packer. A small circular, giving the same information and guaranteeing the dependability of these apples, also was prepared and mailed to 6,000 dealers in cities of 5,000 population and over, in all States east of the Mississippi River. About 8,000 circular letters also were sent out, giving information about the progress of the State Inspection Service and standardized packing. In addition to this method of advertising, posters, stickers and cookbook were printed and distributed, telling the merits of Virginia apples. Next year the Inspection Service expects to extend its advertising campaign still further. It is believed that contracts for the inspection of 1,000,000 barrels of apples may be signed next year.

Results of the inspection and advertising were quite gratifying, according to advice from State authorities. Some growers received from 12 to 50 letters from buyers. As the trade learned that inspected apples were available, buyers began demanding State inspection. One grower with ten or twelve thousand barrels, who refused inspection because he felt he had an established contact with his buyer, found that his apples were not wanted since the buyer was demanding inspected fruit. F. Earl Parsons, of the Richmond office, had charge of the inspectors in this deal, and he was assisted for a while by A. E. Mercker.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman attended the annual convention of State Marketing Officials in Chicago this week. He proceeded today to various points in Michigan, for the purpose of conferring with State officials about the shipping-point inspection service and to interview Civil Service eligibles in that territory. On Monday, December 8, Mr. Sherman is scheduled to address a class in economics at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., on the standardization of farm products. From Ithaca, Mr. Sherman probably will go to Philadelphia, to confer with F. & V. Division representatives in that city.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Mr. Stillwell also was in Chicago the first three days of this week, attending the State Marketing Officials' convention. He conferred with Market News men in the Chicago office, while on this trip, and returned to Washington on Thursday morning. Tentative plans for market news work in Texas were discussed with J. Austen Hunter. The work will be carried on about the same as last year, but it is hoped to extend certain features of it somewhat. Preliminary arrangements were made to send E. A. Hodson, Extension Marketing Agent, Fayetteville, Ark., a weekly wire from Kansas City or St. Louis for broadcasting from Fayetteville.

R. H. Lamb has returned to the Chicago office, following his vacation in Vermont. E. D. Mallison, who assists with the Chicago market news work, will start his vacation this Saturday, being on leave all of next week. R. L. Sutton remains until mid-December, to continue his assistance with the news service.

Arrangements had been made whereby R. H. Lamb could attend sessions of the Agricultural Radio Broadcasting Conference, held in Chicago yesterday.

It is understood that W. F. Plummer is recovered from his recent illness^{and} has returned to duty in the New Haven office. W. E. Lewis, who substituted in that city for the last two weeks, has gone back to the New York office of the Inspection Service.

B. E. Shaffer returned to the Washington office on Thursday. During the period that he assisted in New York City, Mr. Shaffer inspected a number of carloads of Florida citrus fruit which had been shipped by boat from Jacksonville. He reports that only a very small percentage of decay was found in these lots, and that the fruit carried unusually well by this method of transportation. Each of the boats which arrived brought a cargo of 10 to 15 carloads of fruit, mainly oranges. Florida also has started shipments of grapefruit to London.

Edwin Smith, who sailed for Europe on November 1 to make a study of foreign market outlets, arrived in England on November 8, after a pleasant voyage. He advised that the weather was warm and the trip without special incident. Mr. Smith can be addressed in care of Agricultural Commissioner E. A. Foley, at the American Embassy, London, England.

The Omaha office of the Inspection Service is again in operation. E. V. Westgate has completed his extended field trips in the interest of potato inspections at Nebraska shipping points, and has resumed charge of the Omaha work.

J. E. Dickerson has completed his assignment as supervising inspector of onions in northern Indiana, and is again located in the Chicago office.

F. S. Zimmerman, who supervised shipping-point inspections in Delaware for a number of weeks, returned to his headquarters in New York City some time ago, and should again be addressed at this office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. H. Scruggs has returned from Baltimore, after having substituted for W. E. Harrison while the latter was on vacation. At the end of this week Mr. Scruggs will proceed to New York and assist with the market reporting work in that city, during the absence of S.W. Russell on leave the remainder of 1924.

George E. Prince arrived in Washington today, having come from Spokane, Wash., via Denver and Kansas City. Mr. Prince will be in the Washington office about a week, and then go on leave at his home in South Carolina. He has been continuously on market news work in the far West since August, 1923.

Leaving Washington last night, Miss Grace L. Robinson, secretary to Mr. Robb, will be on vacation at her home in Dorchester, Mass., until January 3.

J. D. Evers, who has been attending the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, will be reinstated in the Market News project about December 20, to handle the work in the Boston office while H.S. Stiles is on 10 days' leave. Mr. Evers formerly was in charge of the Boston market news office.

Mr. Samson has reached California, and will confer with C. W. Hauck, at Fresno, and with J. W. Park, at Los Angeles, before these two men return to their headquarters in the Washington office. Mr. Hauck has completed his study of the California grape and raisin industry and Mr. Park his study of the walnut industry, and they may be expected back in Washington in the near future.

W. L. Evans left last Sunday on a trip in the interests of the Domestic Wool Section, which will take him to Dayton and Toledo, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Jamestown, N.Y., and Boston, Mass. One of the pending cases against certain Springfield wool dealers was tried in a Federal court at Dayton early this week, and word has just been received from Mr. Evans that the judge awarded the Government only a nominal sum. Immediate steps were taken in Cincinnati to appeal the decision, so that the matter may come up again in a future trial.

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, and J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, also attended the wool case in Dayton this week. Mr. DeMott is expected to return to Washington tonight, but Mr. Bohannon will visit other points for the purpose of conferring with district attorneys regarding additional excess-profits cases that are pending.

Among those attending the meeting of the National Association of State Marketing Officials were two former employees of this Division, B. B. Jones, representing the Department of Markets in Wisconsin, and Daniel C. Rogers, representing the Missouri State Marketing Bureau. Other State officials who were present and with whom we conduct definite cooperative work on Inspection or Market News, were J. Austen Hunter, Texas; W.A. Manson, Massachusetts; H.D. Phillips, New York; A. L. Clark, New Jersey; P. R. Taylor, Pennsylvania; W. T. Derickson, Delaware; F. B. Domberger, Maryland; J. H. Meek, Virginia; G. R. Ross, North Carolina; W. P. Hartman, Michigan, and E. A. Hodson, Arkansas.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 49
December 12, 1924.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. WEST FLORIDA CITRUS FRUIT TO NEW YORK BY BOAT.

On December 9, the first trip from Tampa to New York was started by a boat chartered by the Florida Citrus Exchange. The cargo consisted of 7,033 boxes of oranges and 9,450 boxes of grapefruit, - 46 carloads in all. The following information on this subject was published recently by our Division of Agricultural Cooperation:-

"As a means of reducing freight charges, the Florida Citrus Exchange has established a steamship line, with three ships, to carry its fruit from Florida ports to cities on the Atlantic seaboard. A rate of 35¢ a box has been established from Florida to New York, compared with the railroad rate of \$1.65 per box from Tampa to New York, and \$1.25 from Fort Myers to the same point. It is expected that hundreds of thousands of dollars will be saved to members whose fruit will be shipped at about one-third of the rate which will be available to nonmembers. Each of the three ships will make two trips a month, a total of six sailings from Florida ports each month. All three of the steamers are fully equipped for carrying fruit under refrigeration."

2a. MARKETING CANADIAN RUTABAGAS.

The farmers in four counties of Ontario, Canada, have formed a cooperative association for marketing rutabagas grown for shipment, particularly to the United States for table use. With the assistance of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and the Ontario Agricultural College, the farmers started their organization in May of this year. Over 1,300 members have already signed the five-year marketing agreement, and it is expected that between 1,500 and 1,600 farmers will be members by the close of the year.

Owing to the limited area interested, the single-unit form of organization was used. "The rutabagas are loaded directly from the wagon to the car, making local warehouses unnecessary. Storing for winter and spring shipments is provided on the farms. The members around each shipping point appoint a committee of three, who recommend a loader to the central office and assist in local organization matters. The head office appoints a supervisor of loaders who has direct charge of the loaders throughout the shipping territory."

It is stated by one of the college officials who assisted in perfecting the organization, that "as a direct result of the organization's activities, independent shippers were forced on November 15 to increase the price paid to the growers from 10¢ per bushel, which had been the ruling price for some weeks, to 15¢ and 17¢ per bushel, an average increase of 6¢ a bushel."

A man was sent by the Ontario Department of Agriculture to 39 markets in the eastern part of the United States for the purpose of advising brokers and merchants regarding the new organization and the product which it is handling. It is reported that new markets were opened up and many new trade connections made; furthermore, that produce dealers in the United States "are well acquainted with the cooperative method of marketing farm products and are favorably disposed toward cooperative marketing efforts on sound lines."

3a. ANOTHER PROOF OF THE VALUE OF GRADING.

"At Beaver Creek, Oregon, recently," says C. E. Spence, State Market Agent, "a farmer had 140 sacks of spuds for sale. A buyer looked them over and offered what the grower considered too low a price. He said there were too many small and undergrade potatoes in the pile. The farmer refused the price offered, and then dumped and graded the stock, taking out 40 sacks of culls. He then resacked them and received a higher price for the hundred sacks than was offered originally for the 140 sacks. And he had two tons of stock feed that did not cost him a dollar. This once more shows what grading will do. The consuming public demands a standard pack and the farmer might far better grade his products than to pay a heavy price for the middleman to do it for him."

4a. TARIFF NOT IMP. SEL. ON APPLES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Various rumors and reports have been circulated recently to the effect that considerable tariff has been placed on United States apples entering Great Britain. C. L. Luedtke, Specialist in Foreign Marketing in this Bureau, has investigated these reports and advises that "no changes have been made so far, nor has any official information been received of any contemplated changes." Mr. Luedtke is of the opinion that "this revival of interest in imperial preference quite naturally follows the election of the new British government which came into power recently, and which is known to favor the protective system and the general principle of imperial preference. However, Great Britain has been a free-trade country for many years, and any attempt to change her policy will be met with some opposition in Parliament and the public press. While no one can say definitely just what is going to happen, I think it is safe to say that the business men of this country and the whole world, in fact, will know well in advance of any change in Great Britain's tariff policy."

5a. DEVELOPMENTS IN WORK ON STANDARD CONTAINERS.

The till basket is the container selected for the next general capacity test. H. A. Spilman is now engaged in collecting samples of this type from manufacturers throughout the country.

Another phase of the standard container work now under way is the compilation of information as to the production of various types of fruit and vegetable containers for the year ending October 31, 1924. This survey is being undertaken in order to present to the manufacturers an accurate picture of conditions in their industry. While the information is not essential to our work, it is hoped that it will prove of value in connection with investigations as to the practicability of standardizing crates and boxes.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 6:

- Page 358 - Special paragraphs on cabbage in weekly review.
- 359 - Michigan Onion Deal Slow, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
- 360 - Northwestern Apple Shipments Heavy, - by G. E. Prince.
 - Colorado's mixed vegetable industry. (filler)
 - Packing New York peaches in barrels. (filler)
- 365 - California Pears Sold by Advertising.
- 368 - October Agricultural Exports.
 - Canadian Citrus Fruit Trade.
 - Prices of American Apples on British Markets, week ending 11/29.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REPORT CARLOT ARRIVALS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

All carlot freight arrivals should be arranged alphabetically in each commodity wire. This is for the purpose of assisting those decoding the wires to catch possible telegraphic errors. Example, "DAGAD DAHAF DIBAG DODAD." Many markets already are reporting arrivals in this way.

Carlot express arrivals, arranged alphabetically and preceded by "Express," should follow the carlot freight receipts. Example, "Express DAFAD DAYAD."

When carlot freight and express receipts are to be given in the same arrival report, to facilitate clearness the freight receipts should be preceded by "Freight." Example, "Freight DIDAF DOXAG Express DAXAD DEKAD," which is decoded "Freight receipts 2 N.C., 3 East Shore Va.; express, 1 Ky., 1 Mo."

2b. DO NOT USE "QUALITY ORDINARY" WITH TERMS "A 2½ INCHES" AND "EXTRA FANCY."

The phrase "Quality ordinary" has been noted occasionally on the apple wires in connection with both A 2½ inch and Extra Fancy stock. We agree that apples of these grades can be ordinary in condition, but do not see how the phrase "ordinary quality" can be used with apples meeting A 2½ inch on Extra Fancy specifications, if the following definitions are remembered. These are taken from the Handbook:

"Quality relates to the color, size, shape, texture, and other factors affecting the appearance of the product, and thereby making it more or less attractive to the buyer."

"Condition relates to the state of maturity or stage of ripeness of the product and the presence or absence of decay, frost injury, withering, or any other deteriorating factor."

3b. SUMMARY OF FLORIDA CITRUS DEAL.

A very complete 44-page summary of THE FLORIDA CITRUS DEAL, 1923-24, by J. D. Evers, has just been distributed from the Washington office. The front cover of this summary bears an outline map of the United States, showing in a general way the distribution of Florida citrus. No information on prices is included in the booklet, but there is a mass of valuable data on shipments and distribution. The preliminary discussion shows in tabular form the production of Florida oranges and grapefruit during the last six years. Throughout the summary pertinent comparisons, in the form of tables and graphs, are made with the citrus industry in California. Florida shipments are shown by originating stations for oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and mixed citrus fruit. Elaborate tables give the final destinations of shipments of each of these fruits from Florida during the first four months of 1924. The number of Florida and California citrus trees is shown by counties, and excerpts are presented from F.B. 1343 on the culture of citrus fruits in Florida. Discussion of the shipping-point inspection service covers an entire page.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

See Par. 4b. on Page 563

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. ATTENTION - SHIPPING POINT SUPERVISORS.

Washington copies of shipping-point certificates are not coming in promptly from some points. It is highly important that we get these as quickly as possible, so that the car numbers can be included in the lists of inspected cars which are sent out daily to receiving markets. Please call the attention of all your men to the importance of promptness in this connection, and see that your instructions are complied with.

2c. INDIANA ONIONS STILL INSPECTED.

In a letter of December 9, J. E. Dickerson wrote from Chicago as follows:

"It might be well to note in the Division Letter that some of the shippers are still taking inspection on Indiana onions as they come out of storage. Probably 150 cars will be inspected during the winter months. I will continue to supervise the work from the Chicago office.

"During the shipping season, 600 cars were inspected at various points in Indiana, a total considerably less than was anticipated when the work started in the early fall. This was due to the fact that the yield was far below the average and the quality a great deal below the usual standard for Indiana onions. An excessively wet and cold season greatly hindered the growth of the onions.

"Although growers and shippers were dissatisfied with the new grades at first, they soon became accustomed to them and were apparently satisfied in the end. Only two shippers were taking inspection when the deal started, but before the close of the season practically all of the large shippers were taking inspection on at least a part of their output.

"The onions are grown on small areas of muckland, scattered over the entire northern part of the State. Owing to the scattered districts, it was difficult for the inspectors to get to the cars. Inspections were made in 78 towns, scattered over 14 counties. Local inspectors traveled over 6,800 miles, an average of over 10 miles per car."

3c. CHARCOAL HEATERS IN CARS OF MAINE POTATOES.

Advice from W. C. Hackleman, Regional Supervisor in New York City, is to the effect that Maine potato growers are using charcoal heaters in many of their shipments made in refrigerator cars this season. They are reported to have leased 500 M.D.T. cars and may use these heaters in other refrigerators if available. Since it is unusual to find charcoal heaters in Maine potato cars, all inspectors are warned to be on the lookout, as dangerous effects may result from the carbon monoxide gas.

4c. BLOSSOM-END ROT AND SUNBURN ON CITRUS FRUITS.

The following information was submitted by Dr. D. H. Rose, of B.P.I., after his recent investigational trip through Florida. Separate sheets, including these two articles, are being mailed with this D.L. to all offices having the Fruit Disease Handbook, and should be bound in appropriate places in the Handbook. If any office having a Fruit Disease book has been overlooked in this distribution, please request the separate sheets from Washington.

BLOSSOM-END ROT.

Cause: Unknown.

Blossom-end rot is most common and most important on oranges, but is sometimes found on limes and grapefruit. It apparently is due in the first place to physiological factors, probably unfavorable weather and soil conditions, which bring about a weakened condition of both tree and fruit, and eventually an infection of the fruit by various fungi. In oranges, the first visible symptoms shown by affected fruits may be any one or various combinations of the following: (1) A reddish orange color over most of the surface, developing several weeks ahead of the normal yellowish-orange color of the main crop; (2) a slightly softened condition over an area half an inch in diameter, at the blossom end, sometimes accompanied by browning at the center of the area; (3) slight yellowing at the blossom end, with or without browning at the center.

When fruits showing these symptoms, especially the high color, are cut lengthwise, they usually are found to be diseased on the inside, the diseased condition manifesting itself as a gray, pink or black discoloration and a partial decomposition of the pithy core. On the other hand, fruits showing merely a brown spot or even a slight softening at the blossom end often are found perfectly sound inside when cut. The colors mentioned above are due apparently to the action of specific fungi, since *Alternaria* is always associated with the gray or black color and *Fusarium* with pink. Nothing is known of when or how these fungi gain entrance into the fruit, but it seems possible, and even probable, that they enter early in the life of the fruit, just as in the case of black rot of California navels.

In advanced stages, the peel at the blossom end becomes decayed in areas of varying size up to an inch and a-half or two inches in diameter, and, like the affected tissues on the inside, shows a gray, pink or black color.

The symptoms on grapefruit are practically the same as those on oranges, except that the extreme final stages of decay do not seem to occur. On limes, the blossom end turns gray to slate color over a rather sharply outlined area and becomes noticeably flattened. There also is some softening of the affected tissues.

There are indications from holding and shipping tests that the rot is able to develop in transit, though rather slowly. Nothing is known of methods of control. Experienced fruit men in Florida say that most of the affected fruit either falls or is picked off by January 1; hence, the rot is not likely to be of importance either in the packing house or on the market after that date.

SUNBURN.

Cause: Hot sunshine, possibly acting in combination with drops of spray mixture on the fruit.

There sometimes are seen on Florida grapefruit and oranges large areas which are pitted, hard, and much yellower than the rest of the fruit surface. The pits are small and apparently have resulted from collapse of the oil cells. In the lots of fruit which show this condition, it usually is possible to find other fruits that show various degrees of more severe injury, the stages most often seen being as follows: (1) yellow, hard spots; (2) the same with a brown patch near the center; (3) the same with a gray patch at the center, surrounded by a brown zone; (4) the same with the gray patch (one-half inch to one and one-half inches in diameter), showing either very small black specks (the fruiting bodies of some fungus), or a black velvety fungous growth over the whole surface; (5) the same with the gray area softened and in many instances encircled by a brown to dull salmon-colored diseased zone; (6) large, softened areas which are a dull salmon color all over and are surrounded by a hard, yellow, pitted zone.

The occurrence of spotting which can be arranged in such a series is due probably (1) to injury by hot sunshine, acting in combination with drops or films of spray mixtures adhering to the fruit; (2) to subsequent infection by one or other of the two stem-end rot fungi (*Phomopsis* and *Diplodia*) or by the fungus which causes anthracnose (*Colletotrichum*). It is possible that the spotting sometimes results from severe drenching of the fruit with a spray mixture, without any contributory action by sunshine.

Fruits showing the hard all-yellow areas, with brown centers, sometimes are allowed in the No. 2 grade; fruits more severely affected should be, and except through oversight usually are, put with the culls. The final stage, showing rather soft decay, certainly would not occur in packed fruit on the market, except as the result of development from some of the other stages described above.

5c. INTERESTING NOTES FROM FLORIDA.

-Shipments of Florida oranges amounted to 351 cars on Saturday, December 6, this being the heaviest movement of the season. Dealers generally look for a somewhat heavier movement this week, and think the peak will occur at this time. Grapefruit shipments are correspondingly heavy, and terminal markets are beginning to weaken under the increased receipts.

-A representative of the National F.O.B. Auction Company, Pittsburgh, was in Orlando last week, endeavoring to line up sufficient business to warrant opening an office there.

-One of the local dealers in Florida confirmed the report of the shipment of a car of grapefruit to London, England. While shipments to British markets are not an entirely new thing, they have been confined to a few cars each season. It is understood that competition from South Africa is one of the chief reasons why grapefruit export trade has not developed more rapidly.

-Increasing shipments of bulk oranges are being made from a number of districts in Florida, these cars going principally to southern and south-eastern markets. One house has forwarded 15 cars of bulk stock so far this season, and reports this method of shipment growing in favor.

6c. NOTES FROM COLORADO INSPECTORS.

"Everything seems to be going along in good shape here in Delta," says L. W. Brewer, Inspector in Charge. "Onions moving out in good condition generally, with the exception of some crops which were put into storage slightly damp and when the weather was warm. With rather poor ventilation in some warehouses, certain lots show heart rot, but generally the stock seems to be keeping as well as can be expected under the weather conditions we have had this fall."

G. W. Dyer, Supervisor of the Delta - Grand Junction territory, says: "Everyone reports a very favorable and satisfactory season. They feel that we have given them unusually good service. Apparently we are making friends with both growers and shippers. I expect there will be much lighter acreage of potatoes next season. The sugar-beet industry has been more profitable, and those interested are putting on a campaign for more acreage."

E. F. McKune, Federal Supervising Inspector, advises that H. W. Samson, en route to California, stopped off at Denver on November 29, 30 and December 1, to confer regarding standardization and inspection problems.

7c. AMMONIATION ON FLORIDA ORANGES.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., advises that the following interpretation of the U. S. No. 1 and Choice Grades, as affecting ammoniation of oranges, has been adopted in place of the one given in the shipping-point handbook, which was found to be unnecessarily strict:

U. S. No. 1 Grade: Ammoniation is allowed only when so slight that it might be mistaken for Melanose or Rust Mite Russeting.

U. S. Choice Grade: Spot type of ammoniation is allowed, provided the spots are thinly scattered over not more than about one-third of the fruit. Scar type of ammoniation is allowed, provided the scars are not cracked and are not over about one and one-half inches in greatest diameter.

All unsightly black scars or unsightly black coalesced spots or fruit of inferior eating quality are excluded from this grade.

F. G. ROEB,
Specialist in Inspection.

CITY INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1924.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total Same Month 1923	Inspec- tions for Carriers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certi- ficate Copy Fees
Atlanta	35	40	75	74	3	2	\$296	\$ 2.50	\$ 22
Baltimore	13	9	22	49	0	0	88	-	4
Boston	54	34	88	80	33	2	360	-	36
Buffalo	29	11	40	35	16	2	132	17.50	11
Chicago	130	126	256	318	0	5	968	20.00	54
Cincinnati	11	20	31	52	0	0	124	-	4
Cleveland	37	59	96	44	22	0	372	7.50	13
Columbus	12	12	24	33	0	0	96	-	-
Denver	11	1	12	9	0	0	44	-	-
Detroit	25	18	43	39	1	0	172	2.50	4
Fort Worth	21	2	23	26	2	0	96	-	1
Harrisburg	5	0	5	2	0	0	16	2.50	-
Houston	12	10	22	35	0	0	60	17.50	-
Indianapolis	20	12	32	33	0	0	124	2.50	5
Kansas City	47	34	81	92	0	0	308	5.00	12
Memphis	27	7	34	30	19	6	139 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	3
Milwaukee	12	5	17	31	0	0	56	7.50	2
Minneapolis	38	20	58	53	0	0	244	-	1
New Haven	13	30	43	44	0	5	196	-	14
New Orleans	60	73	133	160	59	0	416	72.50	56
New York	534	354	888	775	73	0	2528	420.00	126
Norfolk	2	26	28	31	17	0	44	-	2
Omaha	13	4	17	23	0	0	64	-	-
Philadelphia	27	25	52	62	7	0	200	2.50	2
Pittsburgh	116	67	183	169	84	8	727 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.50	36
Portland	7	44	51	32	2	0	192	7.50	-
Salt Lake City	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
San Antonio	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-
San Francisco	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
St. Louis	29	47	76	146	8	0	292	7.50	19
Washington	29	14	43	56	3	0	168	2.50	20
Wilkes-Barre	7	5	12	10	3	0	48	-	8
TOTAL	1376	1109	2485	2570	352	30	\$8571	\$610.00	\$455

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....1376 | Inspections for Carriers.....352
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections....1109 | Declined for lack of time.....30
 GRAND TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.....2485 | Total Fees Assessed \$9670.25#

Total fees assessed include \$34.25 for Inspections made on Per-Hour Basis, by the Norfolk Office.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING NOVEMBER, 1924.

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS.									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	197191	6686	3801	0	200992	6686	25	10	283	11
NEW YORK	351464	90084	11454	0	362918	90084	2022	10	0	0
NORFOLK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	779377	19612	14302	0	793679	19612	1314	77	0	0
SAN DIEGO	542956	78831	3510	66	546466	78897	186	141	91	0
SAN FRANCISCO	488805	0	30000	0	518805	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	858884	0	5213	0	864097	0	1589	0	0	0
VALLEJO	188134	37761	576	383	188710	38144	78	855	0	0
TOTALS	3406811	232974	68856	449	3475667	233423	5214	1093	374	11

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	51164	1530	52694	1535	0
NORFOLK	52957	960	53917	0	0
TOTALS	104121	2490	106611	1535	0

In addition to the above, the Norfolk office inspected 4,302 pounds of fresh, cured, and smoked meats, butter, cheese and fowl for the Navy.

The San Pedro office, in addition to the above, inspected other products, including butter, cheese and bread:

Products	Accepted	Rejected
Bread	11,707 lbs.	0 lbs.
Butter	11,141 lbs.	0 lbs.
Cheese	3,011 lbs.	68 lbs.
Total	25,859 lbs.	68 lbs.

The Vallejo office, in addition to the above, inspected 28,363 pounds of bread, with rejections of 150 pounds, for the Navy; 380 pounds of rolls were passed. This office also inspected 310 pounds of mixed nuts for the Marines.

Report of inspections for the U. S. Lines and Munson Line at New York will be published next week.

→ see D. L. for Jan. 2, '25.

OFFICE NOTES:

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor, spent three days of this week at various towns in Wisconsin in connection with the shipping-point inspection work. Beginning December 12, Mr. Butner will be on a week's leave.

A. H. Polster also goes on vacation at the end of this week, and during his absence from the Cincinnati office S. N. Green, of Cleveland, will handle the Cincinnati inspections.

A rush order came for the inspection of 10 carloads of Maine potatoes, which were to be shipped from Portland to Newcastle-on-the-Tyne, England, and G. W. Payne went from Boston last Sunday to take care of this work at Portland. He found the potatoes of excellent quality. Exports likely will be made each week, and some arrangement will be effected whereby this special inspection work can be handled regularly.

After spending this week in the Washington office, George E. Prince will leave on Saturday for two weeks' vacation at his home in Greenville, S.C.

Miss Verna Schult, of Mr. Clay's section, has been given the position in the Los Angeles office, recently ^{vacated} by Miss Polly Heitman. Miss Schult plans to leave Washington by the middle of next week and take a short vacation before proceeding to California. She probably will report for duty in Los Angeles the first week of January. Miss Schult was appointed to the F. & V. Division about $6\frac{1}{2}$ years ago, and has rendered very satisfactory service.

W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, expects to visit the State market news office at Austin, Texas, on Saturday, to make arrangements for the coming season's cooperative market reports.

Among visitors to the Washington office this week was W. S. Fawcett, a large grower and shipper of cantaloupes at El Centro, Calif. Mr. Fawcett also has 600 acres of lettuce under cultivation this season. He not only praised the market reporting work which has been done in the Imperial Valley during past seasons, but solicited full cooperation of the News Service in this year's deal also.

F. M. Patton expects to leave early next week on a short trip to Richmond, Wakefield, Suffolk, Petersburg and Norfolk, Va., in the interest of the shipment reports of peanuts.

The following changes of location for district supervisors in California's shipping-point inspection service should be noted: H. W. Peterson, who was located at Fresno during the grape season, is back at Sacramento headquarters, but C. E. Linwood will remain at Fresno for the present. F. A. Powell has completed the work at Lodi, and has gone to the San Francisco office. K. R. Nutting, formerly at Santa Rosa, is in Sacramento temporarily, but will proceed to Brawley in the near future. Samuel Preston has gone from San Jose to El Centro, Calif. F. C. Cadwallader is still in the Los Angeles office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

W. L. Evans returned to his desk on Wednesday morning, having attended court proceedings in two excess-wool-profits cases in Toledo and Dayton, Ohio; interviewed three 1918 wool dealers in Ohio and Michigan, closing two of those cases; arranged for the trial of a \$50,000 case in Detroit in February, and interviewed a prospective witness vital to another pending case. Mr. Evans also visited our branch offices in Cincinnati and Detroit on this trip.

Instead of returning immediately to Washington from the trial of the excess-wool-profits case at Dayton last week, H. V. DeMott proceeded to Boston, where he and Mr. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, are preparing for the trial of three important cases expected to be reached in January court sessions in Boston and New York.

N. C. Farnworth, of the Orlando office, is spending a few days this week in the Manatee and Fort Myers sections, conferring with inspectors and lining up new business. O. G. Strauss went from Orlando to the Polk County district on two occasions last week, in connection with citrus inspections.

PLEASE NOTE: Two important changes have already been made in the location of inspectors in Florida, and these corrections should be inserted on the lists of shipping-point inspectors distributed about 10 days ago: G. R. Warren has moved from Tampa to Room 204, St. James Bldg., Jacksonville, Fla., where he will be associated with Mr. Bier. James A. Marks has gone from Cocoa to Tampa, Fla., where he will supervise market inspections in that territory. Address him at "General Delivery."

(Continued from Page 555)

4b. PHILADELPHIA OFFICE WELL KNOWN.

Last week, the Philadelphia office received a letter from a Virginia farmer, who had addressed the envelope as follows:

"Philadelphia produce markets Special Release
by the Philadelphia office of the U.S markets
news Service."

The letter was promptly delivered by the local post office. This peculiar form of address also seems to prove that at least one farmer has been reading the Philadelphia weekly market reports, published in several Virginia papers. The following heading is used for these articles each week:

PHILADELPHIA PRODUCE MARKETS.

(Special Release by the Philadelphia Office
of the U. S. Market News Service)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

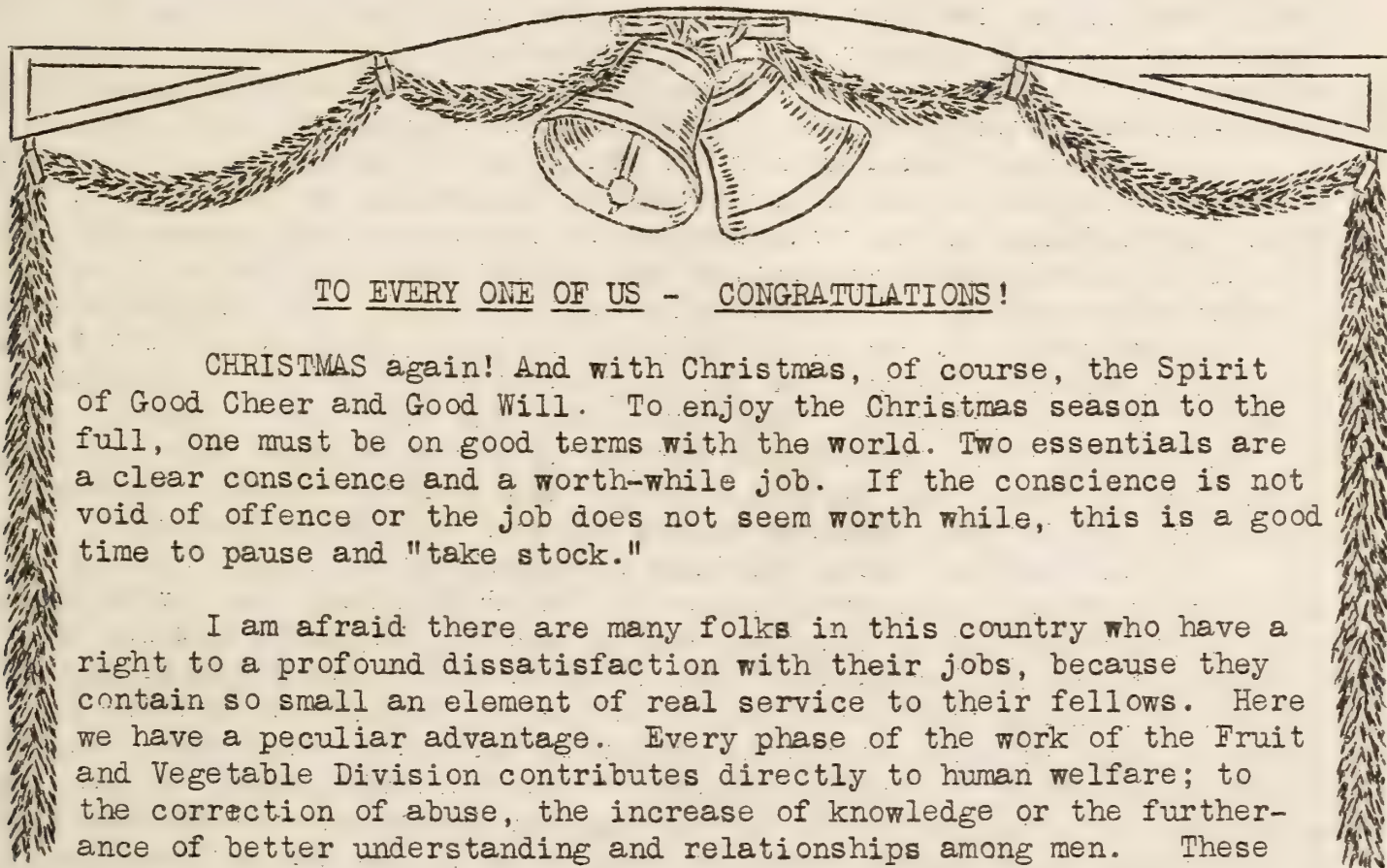
Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 5, NO. 50

December 19, 1924.

(Contents Confidential)



TO EVERY ONE OF US - CONGRATULATIONS!

CHRISTMAS again! And with Christmas, of course, the Spirit of Good Cheer and Good Will. To enjoy the Christmas season to the full, one must be on good terms with the world. Two essentials are a clear conscience and a worth-while job. If the conscience is not void of offence or the job does not seem worth while, this is a good time to pause and "take stock."

I am afraid there are many folks in this country who have a right to a profound dissatisfaction with their jobs, because they contain so small an element of real service to their fellows. Here we have a peculiar advantage. Every phase of the work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division contributes directly to human welfare; to the correction of abuse, the increase of knowledge or the furtherance of better understanding and relationships among men. These things are basic in the advancement of civilization; they partake of the essence of the Christmas idea.

With the season's best wishes to one and all,- Sincerely,

Washington, D.C.,
CHRISTMAS, 1924.

Wells A. Sherman
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and vegetable Division.

1a. ARIZONA CITRUS FRUIT MOVING TO MARKET:

On December 1, the Arizona Citrus Exchange, Phoenix, Ariz., reported that about one-third of the crop of Marsh Seedless grapefruit had been sold. The fruit was of good texture and flavor and found a ready market. The crop was unusually heavy and prices are good. Each fancy Arizona grapefruit is now stamped "Arizona Desert Sweet" in red letters.

The crop of navel oranges is expected to be only about two-thirds as large as last year's, when 50 cars were shipped. The fruit is of good quality and is bringing good prices, practically all sales being for more than \$6 a box, delivered.

2a. INTERESTING DATA ON BRITISH MARKETS FOR APPLES AND CITRUS FRUIT.

Mr. Edwin Smith, the special representative of this Division, now in Europe, has written a number of very interesting letters regarding conditions in the principal English markets, particularly those in Liverpool and Manchester. In one of his earlier letters, Mr. Smith spoke of the varied assortment of boxes used for Spanish oranges. In a store in Covent Garden one afternoon, he saw three boxes on display, each having different dimensions, but all marked 300. Mr. Smith states that certain shippers offered "240's"; "240-Extra"; "240-Extra-Extra"; "240-Extra-Extra-Extra"; "240-Extra-Extra-Extra-Extra"; and "240-Extra-Extra-Extra-Extra-Extra."

Under date of November 28, Mr. Smith gave a description of the methods of handling apples in Liverpool and of the importance of that city as an apple distributing center. The material contained in his letter has just been released as a press notice and undoubtedly will receive wide publicity. A large modern salesroom erected by Goodwin & Simons, Ltd., apparently has been the principal factor in building up the apple trade in Liverpool. The methods of handling samples for display at the auctions are contrasted with those in the United States. They apparently are much more dramatic, and Mr. Smith states that any shipper putting up a "stove-pipe" pack in barrels is sure to be found out, because a sample barrel from each lot is dumped completely into a wide, shallow basket and the contents displayed.

Another letter, dated December 1, discusses the possibility of introducing American grapefruit into the United Kingdom. Mr. Smith figures that, to accomplish this, shippers must be willing to accept returns of \$2.25 to \$3 per box f.a.s. New York. This is based upon a prevailing opinion in England that retailers cannot handle grapefruit, if they are forced to sell them at a price in excess of 4d. each. Only nice, bright fruit, sizes 64 to 96, can be expected to sell at this price. A plan for spreading out a few shipments of high-quality fruit over the British Isles is suggested by Mr. Smith. Oranges, according to his letter, need no introduction into England, as they are well-known and are found on the markets consistently. Valencia and Jaffa oranges were arriving in quantity and selling from \$2.75 to \$3.50 per case at auction the latter part of November. The half-cases in which most Spanish oranges are shipped are tied with a grass rope and arrive with very little breakage. Jaffa boxes are well-bound with split saplings and also arrive in good condition. Mr. Smith's observations on the citrus situation also have been written up in the form of a press release.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 13:

Page 372 - Short crop of potatoes in British Columbia. (filler)

374 - Special paragraphs on onions in the weekly review.

375 - Potatoes in Western New York, - by A. E. Prugh.

376 - Bumper Potato Crop in Michigan, - by R. H. Shoemaker.

- Florida Citrus Movement Increasing.

379 - Million Dollars Paid to Maine Potato Growers.

384 - American Apples in International Trade, with tables showing exports of apples from United States and Canada.

- Prices of American Apples in British Markets, week ending Dec. 6.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. HANDLING MARKET REPORTS ON DECEMBER 24 AND 31:

All offices will be closed on December 25 and January 1. The following instructions cover the handling of work on December 24 and 31:

As trading probably will be limited on Wednesdays, December 24 and 31, no mimeographed reports need be issued on those days. Reporters will not need to cover the market. All market stations should copy the shipments and the shipping-point information, which will be wired as usual on those Wednesday mornings.

Both market and field stations should insert conspicuously on all reports issued December 23 and 30 a boxed notice, stating that no bulletins will be issued on December 24, 25, 31 and January 1, but that shipments and f.o.b. information for December 24 and 31 can be obtained from the local office on request.

On December 26 and January 2 include in your reports all arrivals since the preceding Tuesday's wire, using the code word "CAPUV." This will be of great assistance in Washington in handling the rush of work on Friday morning.

Market stations handling relay work should send shipments and f.o.b.'s to field stations, as usual. Employees may be excused at 1 o'clock, or after four hours' service, on the 24th. No word has been received as yet concerning the possibility of a half-holiday on December 31, but it is likely that the full seven hours' work will be required that day. If it becomes necessary to amend the above instructions in any respect, such amendment will be made over the leased wires in due time.

2b. ADDITION TO THE "KA-KI" (APPLES) PAGE OF CODE.

Effective Dec. 26, add the following to "KA-KI" page of the code:

UP All sizes

This was unintentionally omitted from the revised apple page, sent out Dec. 5.

3b. SOUTH FLORIDA LETTUCE AND CELERY SITUATION.

George A. DeHaven recently moved from Bradentown to Palmetto, Fla., and is supervising vegetable inspections in the territory around Palmetto. He submitted the following information as to crop prospects in a letter of December 15:

"Am writing you a few lines regarding the lettuce and celery outlook in the Manatee section this year.

"The lettuce acreage is about the same as last year. About 30 cars have been shipped from this section to date. The majority of the stock is leafy, about 30% to 40% of the heads being fairly firm. However, the stock is clean and free from disease and many of the growers think that the later crop will make better heads.

"The celery acreage is smaller than last year by about 75 or 100 acres. (Some think it is smaller by 200 acres.) I believe the quality will be exceptionally good this year, as the plants are making good growth and as yet no disease has been noticed. About five acres have been boarded during the last few days and the first car will be rolled about the 24th of December. Shippers are advising growers not to force their crops, as they believe there is too much New York celery in storage to compete with Florida stock. Do not look for much of a movement before the middle of January."

4b. CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES IN CHICAGO.

In a letter of December 11, R. H. Lamb, of the Chicago office, tells of the first arrivals of strawberries in that market:-

"The winter strawberry season opened December 8 with the arrival of 37 trays of strawberries from Mountain View, California. These trays contained 12 pints each, and found a ready market at \$5.50 per tray. The berries were fairly well colored but rather soft."

5b. ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT OF DETROIT MARKET.

At the request of the Associated Press headquarters, Chicago, our Detroit office is now preparing a special daily report, for distribution over A.P. wires to newspapers throughout Michigan. A recent letter from G. C. Bayley reads as follows:

"Arrangements have been made with the Associated Press, whereby we furnish them daily with the jobbing quotations of the Detroit market. It is arranged that they have a messenger from their office pick up the sheet each morning between 10:15 and 10:45. At present, we are covering practically all the important commodities. We have advised them that we will put this report in any form that they may desire, but they apparently are satisfied with the regular form."

6b. SOLID TRAIN OF MINNESOTA POTATOES SHIPPED TO GEORGIA.

A solid train of 20 cars of Gopher State Brand potatoes was shipped recently to Atlanta, Ga., by the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange, St. Paul. The sale was made through the Chattanooga office of the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Inc., and the 20 cars were assembled at Hammond, Ind. A big banner, stretching the length of the first two cars, told of the contents of the train and its destination.

According to the home-storage program, credit is to be allowed from November 1 for storage and shrinkage on all stocks stored on the farms. The warehousing program, outlined for the Exchange, was disapproved by only four members out of 13,654, and the perfecting of the organization of the three warehouse companies will proceed at once.

An experiment in the way of a consumer package is to be made this season. Potatoes will be packed in sealed peck and half-bushel packages, and efforts will be made to determine whether housewives can be induced to buy potatoes on brand, also to learn something of the cost of such a merchandising program.

7b. PUBLICITY FOR RECENT SPECIAL REPORTS.

The Fruitman's Guide for November 29 carried the special summary of the 1924 California grape season, published by C. E. Schultz at the time grape market reports were discontinued at the Fresno office. The issue of December 6 included the complete report which R. R. Pailthorp made recently on his trip to apple-shipping points in the Piedmont section of Virginia.

8b. REPRINTS FROM THE DIVISION LETTER.

Within the next week, each Market News man will be sent a copy of the special pamphlet, containing reprints of the important Market News paragraphs published originally in the D.L. during the first half of 1924. This plan is being tried as a substitute for a complete index to the D.L. Your criticisms and suggestions are invited of this sample pamphlet.

9b. NATIONAL F.O.B. AUCTION COMPANY SUSPENDS OPERATIONS.

A wire of December 16 from J. K. Boyd, Pittsburgh, says: "National F.O.B. Auction Company has suspended operations. No intimation given as to when will resume."

10b. SPECIAL STATISTICS ON APPLES AND OTHER FRUITS.

The December 10 issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets" has about 40 pages of text and statistics (mostly the latter) on apples and minor fruits. Production figures for the last five years are given on apples in United States, Canada, and a large number of European countries. Special consideration is given to this crop in Canada and England. The article and tables relating to American Apples in International Trade, which were printed in "Crops and Markets" for December 13, also appear in this special issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets." Another valuable table gives the exports on the basis of U.S. Customs Districts for apples, oranges, lemons, pears, peaches, and raisins. Transportation costs - or ocean freight rates - to the United Kingdom are presented for a series of years. About a half page is devoted to a discussion of the apple markets in each of the following countries: Germany, Scandinavia, Belgium, the Netherlands, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. The British apple market receives most attention, price ranges by weeks during the last three seasons being given for a number of the leading varieties of American apples. Exports from the United States to each of a dozen countries are shown for each of the last 25 years. International trade (imports and exports) is discussed for apples and grapes over a period of three years. Copies of this special issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets" can be had on request.

11b. SPECIAL RELEASE AT ORLANDO, FLA.

W. H. Hall, in charge of the Market News work at Orlando, is now furnishing the International News Service with a daily report of shipments, passings and diversions of citrus fruit, and this information goes over their leased wire to most of the newspapers in Florida.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. WATCH FOR CARS BEARING POSSIBLE FALSE MARKS.

It has recently been brought to the attention of the Washington office that a few growers are securing chalk, similar to that used by our inspectors at shipping points in the various States, and marking their cars to indicate Government inspection. A case occurred on the Washington market where inspection was requested on a car of New York potatoes for grade, condition, and freezing injury. The car was marked inspected, but, to check up on the original inspection, a complete examination was made. A wire was sent to Rochester, but the car was not listed as inspected and a follow-up by our Supervisor revealed the fact that the shipper of the car was known to have used that practice previously, endeavoring (as he did here) to indicate "Government inspection" at shipping point. In a case like this, it would be possible to do an injustice to the dealer by restricting the inspection to condition only.

2c. ENGLISH APPLE GROWERS ADOPTING AMERICAN PACKING METHODS.

A press dispatch tells how England is adopting American methods of handling apples, as follows:

"The first fruit-grading and packing station on American lines, to be established in England, was inaugurated at Cottenham. It is the property of the Ministry of Agriculture, which makes a standard charge for each box of apples graded and packed. Heretofore, there has been no grading of apples in the Cambridgeshire fruit-growing district, but, with the application of the present American idea, growers will be able to make a much better market. A similar station is planned in connection with the Herefordshire orchards."

3c. SEMI-MONTHLY REPORT OF CITRUS INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

During the period November 16 to 30, the following inspections of Florida citrus fruit were made in the sections indicated:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Grapefruit</u>	<u>Oranges</u>	<u>Tangerines</u>	<u>Mixed Citrus</u>	<u>Total</u>
Arcadia.....	20	28		11	59
Avon Park.....	41	8	2	10	61
Bradentown.....	46	30		5	81
Clearwater.....	45	5	2	4	56
Cocoa.....	14		1	3	18
Deland.....	1	16	27	16	60
Ft. Myers.....	23	8		5	36
Haines City.....	51	6	5	12	74
Lake Land.....	37	21	5	17	80
Leesburg.....	3	51	1	16	71
Miami.....	54				54
Orange County.....	4	55	11	20	90
Tampa.....	8	22	7	14	51
Winter Haven.....	60	32	29	31	152
Total Nov.16-30	407	282	90	164	943
Total Oct.9-Nov.15	631	513	6	72	1222
Grand Total	1038	795	96	236	2165

4c. INTERESTING ITEMS REGARDING FLORIDA INSPECTION WORK.

- A directorate session of the Manatee County Growers' Association, on December 8, was attended by N. C. Farnworth and G. A. DeHaven, as Federal representatives of the Inspection Service. The board of directors of this Association passed a unanimous resolution, adopting Government inspection on all their celery tonnage, and it is expected that similar action will be taken later with respect to tomatoes in Manatee County.

- The directors of the Lee County Sub-Exchange have decided to continue Government inspection on citrus shipments after January 1. This organization was one of the dozen or more that continued inspection after December 1, stating that "if the service was satisfactory, they would continue using Federal inspection after the first of the year." This is good evidence of satisfaction.

- Although the Fi-Bo-Pak container has been on the market for more than two years, it has been used but little in the shipment of citrus fruit until this season. On December 13, a car of oranges, packed in half-bushel Fi-Bo-Pak boxes, was shipped from Mt. Dora, and a number of dealers are specializing in this type of container for the holiday trade. It will be interesting to learn with what success carlot shipments meet in the terminal markets, as this is a radical departure from the standard box.

- On account of heavy October rains, tomatoes in the Miami section of Florida are very much behind, and no great volume of movement is expected before late January or early February. The inspection deal in this region, supervised by C. H. Behnke, is expected to be as important as last season.

- In the Sanford district, a considerable portion of the celery tonnage has been lined up for inspection, starting about January 5. Much of the tonnage of vegetables in the Fort Myers district also will be inspected.

- The Wauchula Truck Growers' Association has been lined up for entire tonnage. This will be principally about 100 cars of cabbage, to start moving around January 1.

- Many of the citrus packing houses have shut down until after the holidays, and it is expected that during the next two weeks shipments will be considerably lighter than they have been recently.

5c. COLORADO INSPECTIONS FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF SEASON.

During the first four months of the season - July to October inclusive - this year and last, the following inspections were made at Colorado points:

Product	1923	1924	Product	1923	1924
Apples.....	382	468	Pears.....	160	201
Cabbage.....	49	275	Potatoes.....	2,709	3,089
Celery.....	0	57	Mixed Fruit.....	12	6
Lettuce.....	228	290	Mixed Vegetables...	208	601
Onions.....	206	303	Miscellaneous.....	7	2
Peaches.....	870	1,075	Totals.....	4,831	6,367

6c. BRIEF REPORTS ON INSPECTION WORK IN COLORADO.

- During the week ending December 7, about 240 inspections were made at shipping points throughout the State, bringing the season total up to 7,421 cars. During the month of November, approximately 1,040 cars were inspected, or 58 more than in November, 1923.

- The inspector in the Grand Junction district writes that he is examining most of the cars which roll from that section, stating that much of the apple crop is wormy and buyers are afraid to load unless he is there to inspect each load. A considerable quantity of apples remains in the Valley.

7c. RESOLUTIONS OF THE WASHINGTON STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A copy of the resolutions passed by the Washington State Horticultural Society at a meeting held in Wenatchee, December 4-6, was received through F. S. Kinsey. Resolution 11 will be of interest to inspectors:

"Inasmuch as joint Federal-State Inspection has been of very great value to our industry, and its growing popularity was demonstrated by the certification during the 1923 season of 15,000 carloads of fruits and vegetables in this State, now therefore be it resolved, That the Washington State Horticultural Association approve joint Federal-State Certification and Inspection; and be it further resolved, That the Washington State Horticultural Association urge its increased use to the end that all shipments of apples and pears from or within the State shall have joint State-Federal Inspection and Certification. Recommend Adoption."

A resolution disapproving the shipping of Fourth Grade apples also was passed, in addition to one urging amendments to State laws to provide for the standardization of grades and packages for cantaloupes, asparagus and onions.

8c. INSPECTORS: DID YOU RECEIVE LAST WEEK'S D.L.?

The envelopes containing last week's D.L. were so over-filled that there was considerable danger of their being torn in the mails and the contents partially or entirely lost. If any Inspector failed to receive his D.L., please advise the Washington office immediately.

9c. SPECIAL ENCLOSURES WITH THE DIVISION LETTER.

With last week's D.L., all Inspectors were sent copies of Dept. Circular 329, "Extension Work in Plant Pathology, 1923," by Dr. F. C. Meier, of B.P.I. Also, a Reinspection Mailing List, dated Dec. 15, 1924.

Those offices having a copy of the Fruit Disease Handbook were sent separate sheets, containing Dr. H. C. Rose's articles on Blossom-End Rot and Sunburn of citrus fruits.

10c. REVISED CITRUS FRUIT GRADES.

Enclosed with this D.L. to all Inspectors is a copy of the latest revision of the Federal Grades for Citrus Fruits (Florida). The only change in these grades from those that were distributed on November 21 is the addition of specifications for U.S. Fancy Golden. The original statement regarding this grade was published in the D.L. for October 31, page 498.

11c. REPRINTS FROM THE DIVISION LETTER.

During the coming week, all Inspectors will be furnished copies of the pamphlet including important paragraphs (mainly instructions) which appeared in the Division Letter from January to June, 1924. These reprints are as a substitute for a complete index to the D.L. Please let us have your criticisms or suggestions, so that the pamphlet which will cover the last half of 1924 may be in conformity to the best ideas.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

The entire Fruit and Vegetable Division was shocked to learn of the death of Frederick J. Baehler, at Baton Rouge, La., on Sunday morning, December 14. Mr. Baehler had been ill with a heavy cold for some days, and a serious case of pneumonia developed about a week before his death. Mr. Butner, of the Chicago office, was advised last Thursday night that the case was a critical one. The body was taken to Dubuque, Iowa, where funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon, December 17. As a representative of this Division, Mr. Butner went to Dubuque for the funeral. Mr. Baehler was about 43 years of age, and is survived by his wife, to whom sincere sympathy is extended. It will be remembered that Mr. Baehler, after supervising the shipping-point inspection work in Utah this season, was assigned to Louisiana, as the permanent Federal representative in cooperative efforts along standardization and inspection lines in that State. He and Mrs. Baehler had moved to Baton Rouge scarcely over a month ago. Mr. Baehler was appointed to the Inspection Service in December, 1917, and was connected with the Chicago staff almost continuously. During the 1923-24 season, he served as Supervising Inspector of the work at shipping points in Illinois and Wisconsin. In April, Mr. Baehler resigned to accept a position with the Stewart Fruit Company, Chicago, but returned to Government service in July. In all of his assignments, Mr. Baehler rendered excellent service and he will be missed from the staff of Inspectors.

Mr. Robb is on a few days' leave this week at his home in Washington, and during his absence Mr. Rupert is handling details in Mr. Robb's office.

Beginning December 24, Mr. Stillwell will go on a short period of leave. Early in January, he will start a two weeks' trip to market stations and field offices, including the following: Grand Rapids, Mich.; Chicago; Madison and Waupaca, Wis.; Minneapolis; Kansas City, and St. Louis. While in Chicago, Mr. Stillwell expects incidentally to attend sessions of the annual convention of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association, to be held January 8-10.

Wires from Mr. Samson indicate that he was in Portland on Monday, Yakima on Tuesday and Wednesday, and at Boise, Idaho, on Thursday and Friday. He probably will return to Washington early next week.

C. W. Hauck has left Fresno, Calif., and is expected to reach Columbus, Ohio, very shortly. He will spend a brief vacation in Columbus, his local address being 54 Erie Road. Soon after January 1, Mr. Hauck will be back in the Washington office.

Wm. E. Lewis returned from the New York office of the Inspection Service last Monday. He has since gone on a short trip in the interest of grades for cannery tomatoes, first visiting growers and packers around Princess Anne, Md., and then attending a meeting of growers at Dover, Delaware.

Neal D. Sanborn, of the Denver office, is at present working on a special report for the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

W. V. Stephens, of the New York inspection staff, has gone to Portland, Maine, and will make frequent trips to that point, for the purpose of inspecting export shipments of Maine potatoes destined to British markets.

Herbert Graff is absent from the New York office on a short period of leave over the holidays.

Announcement has been received from Cincinnati of the birth of a son, J. J. Ahearn, Jr., on December 14 to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Ahearn. Mr. Ahearn formerly was in charge of our Market News office in New York City.

Robert Bier plans to attend a meeting of growers and shippers at Charleston, S.C., next Monday, who are interested in shipping-point inspection. He probably will come on to Washington for a conference with Mr. Robb and others, reaching here Tuesday or Wednesday.

George A. DeHaven, who was supervising inspections at Bradentown, Fla., has now changed his headquarters to Palmetto, Fla. His mail address is P. O. Box 119, Palmetto.

The offices which E. F. McKune and his staff have been occupying in the State Capitol Building, Denver, will be needed by a Senate Committee during the session of the State Legislature starting in January, and for that reason Mr. McKune has moved temporarily to Room 353, Capitol Bldg. All communications should be addressed there instead of to Room 329 for a few months.

J. A. Marks' local address at Tampa, Fla., is 345 Plant Avenue. Please use that address instead of "General Delivery."

Following are the only corrections that have been received to date of the recently-revised list of Inspectors and their addresses: Under Harrisburg, Pa., the office telephone number should be 5151 instead of 9000. Under Omaha, Nebr., V. V. Westgate's residence address should be changed to 3807 Seward St.; phone Walnut 8886. Under Delta, Colo., on the Supplementary list, the "title" of G. W. Dyer should be changed to District Supervisor. In many cases, the words following Inspectors' names are not official titles, but are merely designations to show the duties or the official capacity of particular men.

December 25 and January 1 will be observed as holidays in all offices. The Washington office will close at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24. Numerous employees will be absent the remainder of the year, to complete annual leave. There is a possibility that no Division Letter will be issued next week.

